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THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH, 2010

## Island Pleasure Park welcomes 'the start of new era for the town'

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

**THE** showman charged with reviving the fortunes of Barry Island Pleasure Park declared: "It's the start of a new era", as people flocked to the rides last week.

Taking a few precious moments away from supervising the new attractions, Mr Vernon Studd of VAW Studd Funfairs, told THE GEM: "We opened on Good Friday when it was raining, although it did clear up by about 2pm.

"Saturday was poor, but we were delighted with the turnout on Sunday and Monday.

"From then on, we've had crowds of people - last Saturday was exceptional - and they have been delighted by what they have seen.

"People have been coming up to me and shaking my hand and saying 'What a great job!'

"We've opened the entrance to the Pleasure Park directly opposite Barry Island train station and that has made a difference with people coming straight into the park."

Swansea-born Mr Studd's family have been involved in running fun fair attractions since

1837. My great grandfather started in the business in the 1800s.

"I've been in the business since I came out of school, and in my time have run fun fairs in locations in Wales such as Swansea, Cardigan, Neath and Aberystwyth - and a lot further afield in Oman and Dubai!"

Mr Studd has struck a deal with Mr Ian Rogers, the site owner, which has enabled him to bring in his rides, with colleagues in the fun fair trade waiting in the wings with more space when more space becomes available.

For three years, as a tenant, Mr Studd has had rides in the park - but he was always keen to do something more ambitious and came to a leasing agreement with Mr Rogers earlier this year.

"We now have 14 attractions, and over the next few months would like to double that amount - the more rides and entertainment we have, the more visitors we will attract to Barry Island.

"I hope that my colleagues will be on site with more equipment in time for the spring bank holiday.

"The most popular rides are the dodgems, where Gavin and Stacey



ABOVE: Showman Vernon Studd on the dodgems at Barry Island Pleasure Park, where the crew of hit TV series Gavin and Stacey once filmed.

was filmed once, The Terminator, and The Jumping Frogs."

Mr Studd was keen to thank the Barry and Vale public for responding with such enthusiasm to the re-opening of the Pleasure Park.

"I want to thank the local people for their support and in May or June I'm planning to have a special 'Barry Day' celebration."

**GLOVES OFF!**  
THE general election campaign is in full swing, and a row has broken out between two candidates over election literature.

To find out who, and why, turn to page 6.

## West Camp to honour Sir Winston Churchill

**PART** of the huge St Athan Ministry of Defence site may be re-named in honour of Sir Winston Churchill.

Brigadier AJS Storrie has written from the MoD in London to Llantwit Mayor Coun Russell Downe, asking for his comments.

Brigadier Storrie said that West Camp at St Athan had been developed as a separate base for the 1st Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, and was distinct from, and stands outside, the area occupied by the Defence Technical College (DTC) development planned for the remainder of the site.

He said that in order to ensure that the distinction was clear, it was proposed to rename West Camp 'Churchill Lines'.

He said: "This name has been chosen to recognise and commemorate Churchill's role in the history of the Parachute Regiment and the other force elements within West Camp.

"Internally, it will make clear that Churchill Lines sits distinct from the remainder of the DTC."

Brigadier Storrie said that there would be minimal impact on the local community, and little external change as road signs would still read MoD St Athan.

But he said in view of the long-established links between the

camp and the community, he was writing to a number of leading figures to explain the proposal and seek their views.

Coun Downe said that he was supporting the proposal; "I have always been a great admirer of Sir Winston Churchill and the way he saved this country from the Nazis during the war.

"It is fitting that his name is used as part of the camp."

Coun Downe said that although the letter had been sent to him as mayor, he would be placing it on the agenda for the next town council meeting, so that all councillors could express their views.

## Holiday park proposal could transform former Butlins site

**NELL'S POINT**, the headland on Barry Island which overlooks the Bristol Channel, may become the site of a static caravan park with a leisure club and watersports centre.

If accepted by the Vale Council, the development would take place on the former Butlin's site and, it is hoped, provide a new stimulus to the Island's tourism industry.

The site was last used as a holiday camp in 1996.

Consultants Humberts Leisure have carried out a market analysis for the Vale Council and are convinced there is potential in such a development.

In their recommendations to the council, they say: "Clearly there is a definite leisure and tourism development opportunity of some form at the former Butlin's site.

"Having considered a number of realistic development options, we feel that, in commercial terms, the development of a static caravan holiday park with supporting leisure club, bar, shop and watersports centre would be the strongest use to bring on the market."

The consultants point out that if that use is deemed unsuitable in planning or regeneration terms, then there are alternatives.

The consultants

explained: "If such a use is considered unsuitable...then a hotel-led mixed-use development comprising a budget, limited service hotel and family pub-restaurant...would offer the best way forward for Barry Island to re-establish itself as an important overnight visitor destination in south Wales."

by TIM  
CHAPMAN

ward for Barry Island to re-establish itself as an important overnight visitor destination in south Wales."

The consultants

stress that the hotel use would be within the wider context of a new family park with a large children's play area, event space, gardens, cafe and beach hut - still with a watersports centre and possibly a

small residential development. As THE GEM was going to press, the Vale cabinet was considering the proposals made by the consultants.

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 5)

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## Fighting for Porthcawl

**W**ITH the elections once again to the fore, the public are again reminded of the scandal of MPs' expenses; is it a case that all those MPs involved should, as a matter of principle and honour, stand down and not seek re-election?

It is generally accepted that during elections, prospective MPs and councillors promise the earth, but once elected their promises are mostly unfulfilled.

In Porthcawl over the years, there have been numerous debates and discussions on one of its most momentous projects — the regeneration of the town and the people's battle for a swimming pool and sports centre.

In view of the many vital decisions still outstanding regarding the regeneration project, it is essential that we have a forceful, active and strong MP and councillors, irrespective of their political views, who will speak out and fight for the requirements of Porthcawl.

**John Jenkins, Porthcawl**

## Relatives sought

**I** AM trying to trace some of my relatives and wonder if GEM readers can help?

Eleanor Rose Oliver, died 1940, aged 49 in the Bridgend district. Her daughter, Kathleen Mary Oliver, was born 1912 in Eltham, south-east London, and married Alfred Mummery in 1939.

They were the parents of Brian D Mummery (born 1941) and Jean E Mummery (born 1942),

both in the Bridgend District.

Jean married Frederick B Kirby in the late 1960s-early 1970s, again in the Bridgend area, whose children were: Nicholas Edward Kirby (born 1972) in Mid Glamorgan and Helen Elizabeth Kirby in 1975 in the Ogwr district.

**Aaron James, Dolphin House 4C, Doust Way, Rochester, Kent ME1 1HH.**  
E-Mail: [who.is.aaron-james@gmail.com](mailto:who.is.aaron-james@gmail.com)

## Can readers help build family tree?

**I** AM researching my family tree and am looking for descendants of my grandfather's sister.

Her name was Margaretta May Jones and she was born in Bridgend in 1901. She married Christopher Williams in 1923 and had four sons, two of whom were called Glyn

and Jack.

They lived at 2 Llwydarth Cottages, Nantyllyllon. The rest of the family moved to London in the 1930s.

If anyone has any information please contact me at 8 Winchcombe Close, Swindon, Wilts, SN5 6NJ or email [Jackie.Sellers@tesco.net](mailto:Jackie.Sellers@tesco.net)

Thank you.

**Jackie Sellers, Swindon**

## 'All manure has dangers'

**V**IV PRITCHARD'S recent letter about horse poo reminded me that in all animal manure, dangers of some sort lurk.

During the First World War, it was estimated that two million horses died. One of the warnings to the soldiers was "do not let the horse tread on your feet" because the manure, being mixed with earth, contained the deadly spores of gas gangrene from which many sol-

diers died.

All manure is a living bundle of bacteria and toxins and should be recycled back into the earth in a natural way — depending from which animal too — if humans cultivate the soil.

Having lived on a farm where the lady of the house never wore shoes and showed me her marvellous skin, brought about, she claimed, by walking into the various manures the farm generated, I shudder, but no harm ever came to her.

**John Coduri, Pontypridd**

## Battalion 'touched' by community response WELSH GUARDS SAY 'THANK YOU' FOR A WARM WELCOME

**THE 1st Battalion Welsh Guards has sent Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) a special thank you for the warm welcome extended to the regiment earlier this month.**

Residents packed pavements and bridges to cheer and applaud the Battalion and its band as they marched through the streets, continuing their series of homecoming marches through Wales's towns and cities.

In a letter addressed to the Mayor of

Bridgend county borough, Colonel Tom Bonas thanked BCBC for its particular efforts to welcome the regiment.

He said: "We were truly honoured to see so many local people and dignitaries and so greatly touched by the warmth of the welcome from all. I know it made a big impression with the men."

The Mayor, Coun Jefferson Tildesley, said: "On behalf of BCBC and the citizens of the borough, I can say that we were both pleased and proud to be able to show our support in this way. Their efforts are hugely respected by the people of the county borough."

Coun Mel Nott, Leader of BCBC, added: "Bridgend county borough has a proud tradition of supporting our troops and, once again, citizens turned out in force to honour these brave men and women."

## 'Doorstep crime' expert offers advice

**CARERS in Bridgend County Borough were asked to help in the fight to tackle doorstep crime at an event held in Bridgend.**

More than 40 carers attended the event, which was organised jointly by Bridgend Trading Standards and South Wales Police.

Doorstep crime expert and former West

Yorkshire Detective Chief Superintendent Brian Steele addressed the audience, explaining the vital role they can play in bringing criminals to justice. By being alert to the signs of doorstep crime and learning tips to keep residents safe, carers are perfectly placed to help vulnerable people to stay safe.

Brian Steele said: "To see so many people turn up to this event and show their commitment to catching these ruthless criminals is very encouraging. Make no mistake, we are not dealing with 'cowboys' here; these are professional criminals and we must do all we can to bring them to justice and raise awareness of this type of crime."

Doorstep crime can affect anyone, but often it's older, vulnerable or socially excluded people who are targeted by rogue traders, bogus callers and distraction burglars.

Victims are often too embarrassed to say what has happened to them, making it one of the most under-reported areas of crime. An esti-

mated nine out of 10 cases will never reach police or trading standards.

The BCBC deputy leader, Coun David Sage, said: "We can all play our part by looking out for our neighbours, especially if they are vulnerable."

"We also need people to tell the police or trading standards officers here at the council if they think they have been targeted."

Tips that could prevent the person you care for from becoming a victim:

- Use the 'if in doubt — keep them out' message. You do not have to open your door and it's not rude to ask someone to leave;

- Keep doors locked and use precautions such as a door bar, door chain and spy hole;

- Keep gardens and the outside of the property tidy. Rogues will often target homes that look poorly maintained;

- Encourage the safe storage of money, credit cards, cheque books, savings books and other valuables;

- Always ask if anything unusual has happened or whether anyone has called uninvited;

- Where crime is suspected, don't handle flyers, bills, tools or anything else left behind and don't be tempted to tidy up any mess as all of these things can hold useful information about the identity of the doorstep criminal;

- NEVER engage with a trader who has simply 'cold called' at the property.

## Out-of-work adults will receive support

**A PROJECT which will support out-of-work adults has been backed by Bridgend County Borough Council cabinet members.**

The regional COASTAL (Creating Opportunities and Skills Teams Alliance) Project is an EU-funded scheme aimed at providing vocational guidance, employment skills, training and lifelong learning opportunities for adults who are economically inactive as a result of disability or social disadvantage.

It focuses on promoting recovery and building on strengths and capabilities, to make those being targeted less dependent on services.

Cabinet members

agreed that the county borough should support the initial development of the scheme and that Swansea Council as the lead sponsor for COASTAL will project-manage it.

A further report will go to the cabinet to look at how the project may be funded in the future.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for well-being, said: "This is good news for people with significant disabilities and challenges."

"It is an excellent example of us working collaboratively with other local authorities and fits in well with the positive work we are doing here in Bridgend remodelling our adult social care services."

## HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL APRIL 22)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
15 Thur	07.47	9.5	20.03	9.7
16 Fri	08.21	9.6	20.38	9.6
17 Sat	08.57	9.4	21.11	9.4
18 Sun	09.36	9.3	21.46	9.2
19 Mon	10.12	8.8	22.28	8.8
20 Tues	10.57	8.5	23.22	8.3
21 Wed	11.55	8.1		
22 Thur	00.24	8.0	13.12	7.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tables specific to their location.

## LOCAL INFORMATION

**MADELEINE MOON MP** for Bridgend Westminster office - 02072194417. Constituency office - 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm (by appointment only). Telephone 01656 750002.  
**HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP** for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 737777  
**JANICE GREGORY AM** for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 860034  
**CARWYN JONES AM** for Bridgend Constituency office 01656 664320  
**Bethan Jenkins AM** for South West Wales Telephone 01639 643549  
**BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau**, Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend CF31 1JD 01656 654951 — Open: Monday: 10am to 2pm — information only; Tuesday to Friday: 10am to 12.30pm — advice sessions. Tuesday to Friday 12.30pm to 1.30pm — information only.  
**MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau** 01656 734662  
**POLICE Bridgend** 01656 655555  
**Porthcawl** 01656 785411  
**Maesteg** 01656 732122  
**CRIMSTOPPERS** 0800 555111 (Emergency number 999)  
**COASTGUARD** 01792 366534  
**GAS** (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999  
**ELECTRICITY** (power cuts) 0800 0520400  
**WATER SUPPLY** (emergency) 0800 0520130  
**FLOOD LINE** 0845 9881188

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National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600

**DASH** 01656 650686

**SSAFA — Forces Help** for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435

**RAF Association Welfare Officer**

01495 249522/01446 740522

**SAMARITANS** (emotional support) 01656 662333

**MENTAL DISTRESS**

(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

**CHILDLINE** 0800 1111

**NSPCC** 0800 800500

**RSPCA** 0300 123 0744

**WOMEN'S AID** 01656 766139

**Bridgend Carers' Centre** 01656 658479

**Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend)** 01656 651490

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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**HIGHWAYS** (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643643

**HIGHWAYS EMERGENCIES**

(outside normal working hours) 07831 143600

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

(general enquiries) 01656 642200

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(outside normal working hours) 01443 204010

**HOSPITALS** Princess of Wales Hospital,

Bridgend 01656 752752/668090.

Bridgend and District NHS Trust

01656 752752/668090.

**VOLUNTARY WORK** Bridgend Association of

Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400

**TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

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Bridgend Town Council 01656 659943

Cefn Cribwr Community Council 01656 741354

Coity Higher Community Council 01656 656358

Cornelly Community Council 07882 044798

Pyle Community Council 0790 460 4049

Coychurch Higher Comm Council 01656 863418

Coychurch Lower Comm Council 01656 647216

Garw Valley Community Council 01656 736751

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Llangynwyd Middle Comm Council 01656 738804

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# Former nurse wins appeal BARRY MAN CLEARED OF VOYEURISM

Report by AJ SICLUNA

A FORMER nurse has had his appeal against a conviction for voyeurism allowed at Cardiff Crown Court.

Khaled Doulli, aged 28, was alleged to have watched a 12-year-old girl as she dressed after a swim in a cubicle at Barry Leisure Centre by kneeling down and looking under a partition.

Doulli, formerly of Barry, now living in Cardiff, wept when Recorder Paul Hopkins

QC, who sat with two magistrates, said: "We have a doubt as to the accuracy of the prosecution case."

"The prosecution have not satisfied us so as to be sure of the allegation."

Doulli, a man with no previous convictions, and who is married, was granted his full defence costs.

He had been found guilty at Barry Magistrates Court last November and had been given a community sentence involving supervision for one year, and had been ordered to carry out 60 hours unpaid work and to pay £500 costs.

Prosecutor Marianne Bennett said that on March 21, the girl and two friends went swimming at Barry Leisure Centre.

When they had finished, she went into the family changing area and into a cubicle to change.

It was alleged that as she did so, she saw Doulli looking under an adjoining partition.

No complaint was made at the time, but the manager was later informed and the police were contacted.

Doulli said it didn't happen, and he denied ever looking beneath the

partition. He said the girl was wrong in her recollection.

The Recorder said Doulli was six foot two and of medium build and any adult intent on "peeping" would not have been able to contort himself.

Said the Recorder: "There is doubt about the girl's account of what happened."

She claimed that she saw his hand and a knee and a small part of his face.

She also said, the Recorder stated, that the next door cubicle had been closed but not locked.

The Recorder said that before embarking on such a course of conduct, Doulli would have locked the door.

Doulli said he had been in the cubicle to change in private and because he was a Muslim, to preserve his modesty.

He said after the case: "It has been a terrible time for my wife and myself with some very serious repercussions, including the loss of my job."

"We are very pleased the appeal has been allowed."

STANWELL SCHOOL in Penarth is basking in the warm glow of a favourable inspection report, after it received a grade one in all seven key areas.

The Estyn report was published yesterday (Wednesday) and the main conclusion of the inspection team was: "Stanwell School is a very good school with many outstanding features in all the key questions."

"A major strength of the school is its leadership and management, which is of a very high quality at all levels."

"The inspection team agrees with all the judgements made by the school in its self-evaluation report."

The school, not surprisingly, was delighted, and issued a statement saying: "The governors, headteacher and staff of Stanwell School are very pleased with this report."

"The recognition of so many outstanding features is very gratifying. The school is particularly pleased that the outstanding progress and behaviour of pupils of all abilities has been acknowledged and celebrated."

"It is also appreciated

# Stanwell school report finds that 'outstanding' is the word of the day

RIGHT: The student senior team (head boy, head girl, deputy head boy and deputy head girl) read an advance copy of the report.



that the very high quality of the school's leadership and management at all levels, and the excellent value for money provided, are recognised as major strengths of the school."

The description "outstanding" appears at regular intervals, describing examination performance at Key Stage 4 and in the sixth form, and also the progress made by pupils with special educational needs (SEN).

The inspectors were also impressed with the pupils' behaviour, their "moral and social development" and also their pride in being members of the school.

Once again, "outstanding" was the adjective of choice.

They also praised the "high proportion of outstanding teaching" – and the quality of working relationships between teachers and pupils (also "outstanding").

Extra-curricular activities were praised, as was the quality of the

school's work in partnership with outside agencies and organisations.

The list of outstanding features continues:

- Provision for disabled pupils and those with sensory impairments is outstanding. They are fully integrated into the life of the school.

- Arrangements to eliminate bullying, discrimination and all forms of harassment are outstanding.

- The headteacher (Mr Malcom Parker) provides outstanding leadership to the school and the quality of middle-management is a strength.

- The quality of opportunities for pupils and staff, the continuous

effective monitoring of standards and the detailed target-setting procedures are outstanding features."

- The governing body's role as critical friend is outstanding.

- Resources across the school are outstanding.

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## Tyres slashed in Dinas

POLICE are investigating a series of incidents in which 12 cars parked on a Dinas Powys street had their tyres punctured.

The 12 motor vehicles were parked in Powys Place and all had their tyres slashed in the early hours of Good Friday morning, April 2.

Police are appealing for witnesses or any information regarding these incidents.

Dinas Powys neighbourhood PCSO Michelle Griffiths said: "Patrols have been stepped up in the area and if anyone sees someone behaving in an unusual or suspicious manner they should contact the police immediately."

Anyone who may have information regarding these incidents is asked to contact PCSO Michelle Griffiths at Penarth police station on 101, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 333 111.

## VALE AM'S SURGERY

VALE Assembly member Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery this Saturday (April 17) from 9.30am-11.30am at 115 High Street, Barry.

No appointment is necessary. For more information, call the constituency office on 01446 740981.

Ward surgery CADOC ward councillors in Barry will be holding a surgery on Saturday, April 24 from 10.30am-11.30am at Cadoc School.

If you have problem and are not able to attend, call Coun Fred Johnson on 01446 745184, or Couns Neil and Anne Moore on 01446 721525.

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## Happy birthday to Bro Radio...



Alana Davies with breakfast presenter Matthew Wilson and Station Manager Steve Powell.

**I** WAS delighted to attend a party on Wednesday to celebrate Bro Radio's first birthday in the Hub at the Barry YMCA, where Bro Radio began transmitting just a year ago.

It is most refreshing to see so many people of all ages working together, mainly in a voluntary capac-

ity, for the pleasure and information of the community - and clearly enjoying every minute of it.

I'm sure this enterprise will go from strength to strength, and I look forward to being invited to their second birthday party.

**Alana Davies**  
(Labour parliamentary candidate, Vale of Glamorgan)

## Barrivale Bridge – latest results

**THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club are:**

1st, Maureen Charlton and Helen Jordan 62.50 per cent; 2nd, Noelle Bond and Mike Close 53.13; 3rd, Huw Thomas and Celia Thomas 52.50.

Maureen and Helen also won on handicap

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information ring 01446 733425.

Read your  
GEM online  
at  
[www.barry-today.co.uk](http://www.barry-today.co.uk)

## Students pass on tips to the Vale Council (and grill the cabinet)



ABOVE: Cabinet members are pictured with students from the Bryn Hafren and Cowbridge comprehensive schools.

**YOUNG people have been passing on tips to the Vale Council's cabinet at a series of question and answer sessions at the Cowbridge and Bryn Hafren comprehensive schools.**

"The cabinet spent an hour with each school council, who were well prepared and didn't pull any punches!" a spokeswoman reported.

"Questions ranged from education issues to leisure facilities in their areas, as well as the popular subject of pot holes and road conditions.

"Cabinet members were also quizzed on student transport options and whether they thought recycling should

be made compulsory."

School council members from both schools afterwards attended a cabinet meeting at the Civic Offices in Barry to see how the sessions are run.

Council leader, Coun Gordon Kemp, said: "The questions that were asked by both the school councils help us to

understand the issues that are current and important to pupils of all ages.

"Cabinet and members found the experience very useful and enjoyable, and as a result we are planning to visit other schools throughout this year to meet with their school councils."

## 'Clairvoyant night' raised £565

**ON behalf of the Penarth Royale Supremes Jazz Band, I would like to thank Christine, Mozey, Glenys, Jan, and all who attended the 'clairvoyant night' held at The Railway on Wednesday, April 7, helping to raise £565 for the band.**

**Steve Lane,**  
**Pets R Us, Barry**

Anne was born in Canada and married a local man Kevin, and has lived in Barry since 1992. Anne's aim is to sell unique hand crafted products and this has become her passion in sourcing one of a kind items, hand crafted, Fair Trade, Eco-friendly, recycled etc. There will be something for everyone in the shop. I.e, hand made leather journal from the USA, Cluckie Bunnies, each one hand sewn and one of a kind, a variety of drinking glasses made from recycled wine and beer bottles, hand made bags from Vietnam etc, also offering a gift wrapping service. Summertime will see the roll out of our online, bespoke hamper service where you can order a number of items that will be wrapped and delivered to your desired destination. This service will also be available from the shop and by phone.

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# 'Keep your dogs under control in countryside' – police warn local owners

**POLICE in the Vale are warning dog owners to make sure their animals can't get out and roam the countryside unattended.**

The warning follows the report of a young lamb being killed on farmland at Ogmore by

Sea by dogs which had been left off their lead by the owner.

Vale Neighbourhood Police officer, PC Robin Mellor, said: "There have been a number of recent instances of dogs worrying sheep in the area."

"This tragic case highlights how important it is to make sure your dog is kept under control.

Please be very careful when you are walking your dogs in the country, or if you live in the country make sure your garden is secure.

"The sheep would have been terrified and in many cases where they have been killed by dogs, they have been literally ripped apart. It is vital that people realise just what their dogs are capable of doing if they are not properly controlled, and that any dog found attacking sheep can be destroyed."

PC Mellor pointed out: "While dogs may not be aggressive in their general nature, dog owners need to understand that often the dog's natural instincts take over in these situations. Not only does this have a significant cost to the farmer and cause a great

deal of distress or harm to the sheep, there are also legal implications.

"When on any enclosed land with sheep, all dogs must be on a lead or 'under close control'. If you allow your dog to worry livestock, you may be prosecuted and fined, ordered to pay compensation and even have the dog destroyed."

"I would appeal for all dog owners to consider this and keep your dogs on leads and under control at all times when around livestock."

With a few exceptions, the law allows farmers to shoot dogs that are threatening livestock. If a dog worries livestock, then the dog's owner or the person responsible for it at the time is guilty of an offence under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953 and may be sued for compensation by the farmer.

PC Mellor added: "The emotional stress for the farmer is considerable and in-lamb ewes will often abort their lambs when worried by dogs. Owners have a responsibility to keep their dogs under control – when unsupervised, the friendly family pet can easily turn wolf and cause untold damage."

## Holiday park to be built at Barry Island?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The chairman of Pride in Barry, Mr Paul Haley, said: "The consultants have put forward a range of options that are all quite interesting, although I believe a watersports facility would be better located in the dock or old harbour by the water, rather than on the slope of Nell's Point."

But Mr Haley was keen to emphasise the need for a body to coordinate any proposals that get the go-ahead in Barry.

He explained: "We need an 'over-arching'

organisation which will take care to integrate the different schemes proposed in the town. In the past that role was fulfilled by the WDA."

The Barry Regeneration Board could be a vehicle for that task, but Mr Haley said he would like to see the Vale Council and Pride in Barry, working with emerging partners such as developers, the Vale Heritage Centre coalition and the Defence Training College, on any body which might undertake overall responsibility for local regeneration.

**You can read The GEM online at: [www.barry-today.co.uk](http://www.barry-today.co.uk)**



(Left to right): Jo Leonard (NSPCC community fundraising manager for south east Wales), Barry College Students, Lesley Hughes (NSPCC Barry committee member) and Louise Judd (Barry College lecturer).

## College students raise cash for the NSPCC

**HAIR and beauty students from Barry College on Colcot Road recently paid a visit to NSPCC Cymru/Wales' new**

**service centre in Cardiff, Diane Engelhardt House, after raising more than £130 for the children's charity.**

Students from the

NVQ hair and beauty courses, presented a cheque to NSPCC Barry committee member, Lesley Hughes, and also toured the new building, which provides direct services for children and young people from across South Wales.

To raise money for the NSPCC, the students held a number of pamper days, inviting existing and new clients to try treatments ranging from blow dries, manicures and pedicures, and even reiki, at the college.

Daisie Debono, hair and beauty student, said: "We came up with the idea of organising some pamper days to really put into practice what

we have been learning and we thought it would be good to donate proceeds to a charity. We were really keen to support a children's charity and the NSPCC seemed the obvious choice to us."

Jo Leonard, community fundraising manager for south east Wales, said: "I would really like thank the students from Barry College who have put in a great effort to raise money for the NSPCC."

Anyone interested in becoming involved with the NSPCC should contact Jo Leonard on 01446 795404 or email [jleonard@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:jleonard@nspcc.org.uk).

## Coffee morning for the BHF

**THE British Heart Foundation's Llantwit Major branch will be holding its annual coffee morning at the West House Country Hotel, Llantwit Major at 10.30am on Thursday, April 29.**

The annual Llandow Bike Ride, now in its 29th year, will take place on Sunday, May 9, at the Llandow Circuit.

Details of either event can be obtained from Bob Bevington on 01446 773511, or Patrick Hart on 01446 792010.

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Mugh-Chat-Puree	£3.25
Jhinga Til Bhaja	£4.25
Chicken Pakora	£2.70
Mixed Tandoori	£2.90
Lamb Samosa	£1.80
Machli Kebab	£2.75
Chicken Chaat	£2.70
Royal Platter - For Two	£5.75

**APPETISERS - VEGETARIAN**  
*Served with fresh salad and mint sauce*

Aloo chops (V)	£1.95
Samosa (V)	£1.80
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Aloo Chat (V)	£2.10
Sabzi Platter - For Two (V)	£5.25

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*Prepared in an Indian Wok style with fresh garlic, ginger and tomatoes in a spicy aromatic sauce.*

Balti Chicken or Lamb	£4.95
Balti Chicken Tikka	£5.50
Balti King Prawns	£7.50

*Baltis with extras of your choice, please add 60p; Mushrooms/Spinach/ Mixed Vegetables/Potatoes*

**CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chicken Tikka Masala (N)	£5.50
Chicken or Lamb Jhalfrizi (V)	£5.50
Chicken or Lamb Pasanda (N)	£5.75
Murgh Makhani (N)	£5.75
Laal Maas (V)	£5.95
Nizami Handi	£5.95

**BIRYANI DISHES**

Chicken Biryani	£5.75
-----------------	-------

Lamb Biryani ..... £5.75  
Tandoori Chicken Biryani ..... £6.75  
Vegetable Biryani (V) ..... £4.75  
Maharaja Biryani ..... £7.50  
Laziza Biryani ..... £6.95

**VEGETARIAN**

Balti Vegetables (V)	£3.95
Milani Sabzi Handi (V)	£3.95
Subzi Masala (N) (V)	£4.25
Subzi Paneer Jalfrezi (V) (V)	£4.50
Paneer Pasanda (N) (V)	£4.50

**TANDOORI DISHES**  
*Served with fresh salad and mint sauce*

Tandoori Chicken (half)	£5.50
Tandoori Duck	£5.95
Chicken Tikka	£5.50
Tandoori King Prawns	£7.75
Tandoori Platter	£7.50
Tandoori Shashlik	£6.50

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Dopiaza	£4.75
Madras (V)	£4.75

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Aloo-Gobi or Sag-Aloo (V)	£2.10
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Daal Tarka	£2.10
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Rice	£1.55
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Keema Naan	£1.75
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) Chilli rating (N) Contains Nuts (V) Vegetarian

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1 Plain Nan Bread  
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2 Papadoms  
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# 21 days until nation goes to the polls CANDIDATES 'LOCK HORNS' AS GENERAL ELECTION HOTS UP

ONE of the great traditions of a British general election is that parliamentary candidates clash over claims made by opponents in their campaign literature.

Within the last few days, two of the Vale's leading candidates have locked horns over the contents of a mail drop.

Alana Davies, Labour's candidate to succeed MP John Smith in the Vale, accused her Conservative opponent, Alun Cairns, of "scaremongering" local voters, in a mailing which claimed that crime and anti-social behaviour were rising.

She said that in a letter sent to voters in the Vale, Mr Cairns had stated he was "concerned about rising levels of crime and anti-social behaviour".

Ms Davies said Home Office figures showed that crime had fallen in the constituency, and that Mr Cairns should immediately apologise to voters for misleading them.

She argued: "Alun Cairns' claim is misleading and inaccurate. Crime figures released by the Home Office show that crime for the year up to September 2009 fell in the Vale yet again compared to the previous year.

"They show that there are 11.4 per cent fewer victims of crime, house burglaries are down by 17.8 per cent and violent crime is down by 13.7 per cent.

"Alun Cairns should apologise for his bogus claim.

"He should be honest with voters here in the Vale and confirm that he

## REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

misled them on this issue.

"His misleading and inaccurate claim also undermines the hard work of the Vale police force which is among the best in detecting and cutting crime."

However, Mr Cairns told The GEM he stood by his claims, and insisted that his figures had come from a Welsh Assembly website.

He pointed out: "The Welsh Assembly Government's website, StatsWales, clearly shows this rise in anti social behaviour.

"They are official recorded crime figures and have come from the Home Office. I'll happily point the link out to Ms Davies.

"It is clear that the shortage of officers and resources across the Vale are having an impact.

"When I went out with the police some time ago, I couldn't believe that on one occasion, all officers were tied up at the custody suite because of paper work, and there was no-one on patrol in Barry! This needs to change."

Mr Cairns' figures indicate increases in crime from 2001/02 to 2008/09:

Violence against the person, 1,238 to 1,661 – an increase of 34.17 per cent; sexual offences, 68 to 88 – an increase of 29.41 per cent; and robbery, 36 to 44 – an increase of 22.22 per cent.

For voters, the nub of this issue seems to be whether they regard more recent history as the best guide of a perceived trend, or a comparison over a longer period of time.

## RING-FENCED

Meanwhile, Mr Cairns criticised Ms Davies for scaremongering by sending out a "misleading and inaccurate" leaflet, which attacked the Conservatives over the National Health Service.

He claimed: "The NHS is our number one priority and it is completely untrue to say we would cut the amount of money available for the NHS in Wales.

"The Conservative Party has repeatedly stated that the budget for the NHS will be ring-fenced and protected by us in government.

"In any case, health is a devolved issue in Wales and is completely under the control of the Welsh Assembly Government which is run by Labour and Plaid.

"If there is less money for health in Wales after May it will be entirely down to decisions taken by the administration in Cardiff Bay."

Mr Cairns added that the leaflet also referred to Conservative plans to end free prescriptions.

"Again, this is nothing to do with Westminster and is down to the Welsh Assembly. It is our policy to enhance cancer and stroke services, which would be funded in Wales from a modest charge to millionaires who currently receive free prescriptions.

"A total of 90 per cent of prescriptions would remain free. All pensioners, benefit claimants, young people and those with chronic illnesses will still get free prescriptions.

"We have a situation now where people are being denied life prolonging cancer drugs so

that others can get free aspirin!"

He added: "We believe that resources must be better targeted so that the money goes to where it is most needed and where it can do the most good."

Ms Davies refuted any suggestion that she had been scaremongering.

She said: "What I have said is that the Tories would end free prescriptions and their public spending cuts would hit the amount of money available to assist the NHS in Wales – and I stand by that statement.

"Mr Cairns himself admits that free prescriptions would no longer be available to all, and I believe people here in the Vale will be dismayed with his statement.

"This is a change that would affect communities across Wales, and would cost more in administering it.

"It's all very well for Alun Cairns to say that the Conservatives will protect the NHS budget. Things are different in Wales.

"In cutting public spending, the Tories will remove money required for the NHS in Wales, and the administration in Cardiff Bay will have less to spend on it. It's as simple as that."

She added: "Just because health is a devolved issue, does not mean we should forget about it. In Wales, we created the NHS and it is the Labour Party's greatest achievement.

"We saved it after the long years of Tory cuts and have invested in NHS hospitals, medical facilities, extra nursing staff and consultants right across Wales.

"Labour will protect it – in Wales – as well as across the UK."

# Pet owner to contact RSPCA over mystery of the missing cats...

by TIM CHAPMAN

A pet lover is to contact the RSPCA, following the response she had to an appeal for local people to contact her if they were concerned about the disappearance of their cats.

Mrs Gail Adams of Coldbrook Road East, Barry has been mystified since her tortoiseshell cat, Lucy, disappeared on March 19.

Mrs Adams told The GEM at the time: "I have

done everything I can think of to get her back. I've spoken to people, put out flyers, and placed an advert in The GEM, which sparked six calls – but still there has been no joy.

"My next door neighbour's cat has also gone missing, and I've heard of others that have disappeared locally.

"I've got a strange feeling something not very nice might be going on."

This week Mrs Adams was keen to update GEM readers on the response she had received.

She said: "I've had a number of emails from concerned people, and people locally have told me they saw the story.

"It seems that cats disappearing is rife – it is a bit frightening and I will be contacting the RSPCA."

Dawn Rose, who runs the Sunnyside Cattery in Wenvoe, and has carried out work for the RSPCA, said she believed Mrs Adams' concerns were well founded.

She explained: "The number of cats that seem to go missing is phenomenal.

"I know of one woman who lives in a quiet street in Barry where four cats have gone missing."

Dawn is regularly contacted by anxious cat owners who hope their pets may have been found and handed in to her.

She pointed out: "What we are talking about is often much-loved cats who don't wander far because they have everything they need close to home."

Mrs Adams fears that something odd is happening because if a cat is run over or killed locally, it is likely the owner will find out about it – but in numerous cases, cats seem to have vanished without trace.

One woman who lives near Mrs Adams, and whose cat disappeared just before Christmas, emailed her to say: "I too have noticed more posters up appealing for information about their missing cats and feel there is more to it than bad luck."

A GEM reader in a Vale village wrote of her cat: "It seems impossible that he could just disappear without a trace and without someone knowing what happened to him."

One family contacted Mrs Adams to say: "We saw the article in The GEM regarding missing cats and we hope yours has returned."

"However, our family and I have been worried about this problem for many months now, as we have heard of a great number of cats that have gone missing in the Bridgend area, Canton, Rhiwbina and in the Peterston area, where we have seen posters up."

"We also believe that something untoward is going on, as whole streets are going missing at one time."

"We have been very concerned for some time now, and we are anxious every time our cats go out."

If anyone would like to contact Mrs Adams, email her on [gail.adams70@ntlworld.com](mailto:gail.adams70@ntlworld.com)

## BRO Radio's success story continues...



BRO Radio Station Manager Steve Powell and Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale, are pictured (above) cutting the birthday cake.

TWELVE months ago, Bro Radio began broadcasting across Barry and parts of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Since then, it has broadcast a wide range of quality local programmes and increased its listener base.

Station Manager, Steve Powell is "delighted" with the way the people of the Vale have taken to BRO Radio and the response it is creating.

"We have achieved so much and given the people of Barry and parts of the Vale an alternative to commercial radio and the BBC. We are proud of the service we provide and continue to develop.

"Since launch, we have steadily increased our live and recorded output, developed a local news service in partnership with the Glamorgan GEM, created work placements for young people and worked with local schools, developed community partnerships, provided PA and outside broadcast at community events, covered Vale

Council events and campaigns, promoted local charities and voluntary organisations and attracted advertisers and sponsors, from small business to blue chip companies.

"BRO Radio has also provided full-time employment for several people."

It has captured the creativity of its volunteers mixed with the enthusiasm, enterprise and good business sense to create a recipe for success.

"It's been a very challenging year but despite the economic climate, BRO Radio has gone from strength to strength, and the next 12 months will see further exciting developments, making BRO Radio an important integral part of the media family across south Wales."

BRO Radio has the financial support of the Vale Council and the Lottery and is in partnership with the Barry YMCA.

If you would like to know more about the service it provides, call the station on 01446 420681.

## Who has lost their camera?

WHILE walking along the promenade at Whitmore Bay yesterday (April 10) I found a little Kodak camera, but in spite of asking around, I couldn't find the owner.

Although I don't believe the camera to be particularly valuable, there are some lovely group images of it of special family occasions. I would be delighted to reunite the camera with its owner.

Please contact me on: [roma.broadbent@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:roma.broadbent@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone Roma Broadbent on: 01446 722187.

## Home from home comfort

AS an ex-first class rugby player with the usual knowledge of hospitals and nursing homes, may I express my admiration for the way the Springbank Nursing Home in Barry is run.

I have been resident here for the last few weeks with an old rugby injury, so I have had a perfect opportunity of observing the excellent operation at first hand.

Ian M Jewell, Cowbridge

## VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

THE Vale Volunteer Bureau is holding outreach surgeries for advice and information at Penarth Library today, Thursday, April 15 and Cowbridge Library on Wednesday, April 21 (both days from 2pm-4pm).

For further information, contact Joe on 01446 421782, or visit [www.vvb.org.uk](http://www.vvb.org.uk)

## JUMBLE SALE

A jumble sale will be held by Llancarrow Tuesday Club on April 24 at 1.30pm in Llancarrow Community Hall. Proceeds to local charities.

## SCHOOL CROSS TAKES AN EASTER TOUR OF THE VALE



The photo shows the banners made by pupils for the services to celebrate Easter.

LLANTWIT, Cowbridge, Penarth and Barry were all stops during Lent for the Cross made in St Richard Gwyn Catholic High – as pupils showed junior schools and churches the true meaning of Easter.

With not a bunny or egg in

sight, pupils made banners to represent the journey of Jesus to Calvary, and even composed their own hymns for the services held in the school, to ensure that parents and pupils did not forget the real reason for the traditional holiday.

Year-7 pupil Nuria Horner sang 'I've fallen three times' composed by the school's 'Canu

a Gweddi' group, to the tune of the Ashgrove. Senior pupil Thomas Power asked 'Why me?' as he sang the story of Simon of Cyrene, who helped to carry the cross 2,000 years ago.

The Cross finished its journey as the focus for the Walk of Witness in Dinas Powys on Good Friday, starting from the Methodist Church.



## 'Military museum could give boost to Vale tourism' - MP

VALE MP John Smith claims that a planned military history museum at the £12 billion Defence Technical College (DTC) in St Athan could attract up to 10,000 visitors each year.

In a report recently approved by the Vale Council on the St Athan project, it was revealed that a planned 6,800 square metres museum of military history at the site could generate up to 10,000 visitors each year.

John Smith, who championed the St Athan bid, said: "This is great news for the area and I believe it's just the start. It shows the golden opportunities that are up for grabs for our local businesses. "I want the business community here in the Vale to get the lion's share of the business opportunities created by



John Smith at St Athan.

newspapers for the area and I believe it's just the start. It shows the golden opportunities that are up for grabs for our local businesses.

"I want the business community here in the Vale to get the lion's share of the business opportunities created by

the St Athan project once it is up and running. That's why I am encouraging local bed and breakfasts and hotels to start thinking about increasing their bed spaces.

"I would also encourage retailers to come up with innovative ways of marketing their products and services, to ensure they get a slice of what visitors will spend locally.

"If we pull out all the stops, there is no reason why we can't attract 100,000 visitors each year in the Vale, as we did during the height of the popularity of the beaches of Barry Island."

## LEARNING ABOUT QUEEN VICTORIA'S ROYAL LEGACY

At the April meeting of Rhoose WI, the speaker was Mrs Christine Soughton, who kindly stepped in at short notice because the scheduled speaker was indisposed.

She gave a most interesting talk about the children and descendants of Queen Victoria, and

### RHOOSE WI

the way in which they had married into royal families all over the world.

Arrangements were made for the lunch club to meet at the Cwm Ciddy at Weycock Cross today (April 15) at 12noon.

Those who would like to combine this with a pleasant walk should meet at the layby near the Egerton Grey at

10.30am, when the route to the Cwm Ciddy will be taken through Porthkerry Park.

The May meeting of the WI will take place on May 6 at 7.30pm when resolutions will be debated.

Members please note that this meeting will be held at the Presbyterian Chapel, Fontygary Road, Rhoose, because the community hall will be in use as a polling station.

## Live bands rock in new Barry venue

LIVE music in Barry has taken a few knocks lately, with the demise of several popular bands and the loss of the Sub Club, which has left a gap in the music scene.

On Good Friday that gap was closed. A new live music venue and three emerging bands, very obviously brimming with talent, were unveiled.

The venue was The Savoy, already established as a bastion of rock music of the recorded variety, it has dipped its toe into the turbulent waters of untamed guitar-fuelled live performance. The management seemed pleased with the experiment and the good news is more events are on the horizon.

The evening was opened by The Anderson Connection ([www.myspace.com/theandersonconnection](http://www.myspace.com/theandersonconnection)). Their music fuses guitars and beats, with lyrics ranging from thoughtful to downright bizarre.

Shooting the Moon took the reins next; they define their sound as "somewhere between The Cure and Joy Division without the obligatory cloud of depression hanging above".

Clearly conscious that every detail of their music makes a difference, the set was delivered with aplomb and received enthusiastically.

The evening was headlined by Some Kind of Leader (SKOL) - featuring Barry's own Matt Blumberg on bass. They set out their stall early, opening with 'Wrong Side' featuring intense guitar riffs wrapped around some funky bass work; it immediately got the crowd on side.

The band are very obviously talented musicians, this manifests itself in their confident stage presence and cleverly-structured songs, which provided the perfect platform for them to peddle their wares.

ROB SALTER

## Police hunt early morning house burglar in Barry

DETECTIVES in Barry are investigating the burglary of a house in Michaelston Close which took place at around 6.40am on Easter Sunday.

A white man, described as in his early 20s, of slim build and about five feet six inches tall, who was wearing clear goggles-type glasses, got into the house before being disturbed by the householder.

He was also wearing a dark baseball cap, a dark single coloured tracksuit top and trousers.

After being disturbed, he made his escape via the front door, and made off in the direction of Coychurch Rise.

Detective Sergeant Mark Bowen of Barry CID said: "This was a very unpleasant experience for the resident and we will be doing everything we can to bring the culprit to justice."

Anyone with information regarding this incident or who may have seen this person, either on his own or with someone else around the time in question, is asked to contact Detective Sergeant Bowen at Barry CID on 01446 731606 or anonymously via Crime stoppers on 0800 555 111.

### ARSON SUSPECTED

Local police are also investigating a suspicious fire which occurred in workshops adjacent to Plymouth Road on Barry Island earlier this week.

They believe the fire was started at around 9.30pm on Monday and smouldered for

several hours before spreading into the building at around 1.30am on Tuesday morning.

Detectives are studying CCTV footage of the area. They would also like to speak to four male youths who were seen in the area at the time that the fire is believed to have been started.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Barry CID on the above number, or Crimestoppers.

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**GEM reader and green campaigner, Dinky Kennedy, was taken by our April 1 exclusive on infamous Dutch tycoon Pieter Van Bleuw's latest diabolical plans, that she was inspired to put pen to paper herself – the headline is also her own!**

## 'Green and Bleuw united, in spite of impact on the environment!'

**A**N emergency meeting was held by the Transition groups in Cardiff and the Vale to discuss news (in The GEM) that Dutch entrepreneur, Pieter van Bleuw, is to build a massive smelting works on the Vale coast.

The Transition group in Penarth Marina agreed to mobilise a flotilla of small boats to support Greenpeace's Rainbow Warrior, which was standing by to thwart the construction phase, due to start next April 1.

Both members of the newly-formed Transition group in Omore by Sea agreed that the only sensible action was to move house.

They had decided Windsor or Balmoral were the safest bet, as the Palace was unlikely

to allow similar blots to appear on their landscape.

Controversial opinions were voiced by the team who had cycled over from Port Talbot.

They said they couldn't see what all the fuss was about as they had suffered with this kind of thing for years.

A spokesman for the group said: "The best you can hope for is that the 60' tower is camouflaged. A daffodil won't do; it should be a subtle shade of green at the bottom and sky blue at the top."

However, in what can only be seen as a major U turn by the Transition group, it was concluded that this could offer a major opportunity to spread the Transition name and that the project would be embraced wholeheartedly in return for publicity.

The spokesman said: "As a group, our aim is to instil a sense of community to Cowbridge and use this collective enthusiasm to engage people in activities that will improve the local environment, reduce its impact on precious finite resources and generally make the town and surrounding area a more resilient and positive place to live."

"However, on reflection, we just thought the opportunity to get the new Transition logo flying from the 60' tower was too good to miss."

"We would encourage all interested parties who would like to offer sponsorship of the 60' tower to come forward."

"Their names could fly alongside the Transition logo."

## Bosch workers' update talks

RETRAINING of Bosch workers and the future of the site were on the agenda when Vale AM Jane Hutt met the Bosch works council and the Unite union last week.

She commented: "Following our joint meeting in Stuttgart in February with the European Works Council and Bosch directors, I held a meeting with the Bosch Works Council and Unite the Union at the Senedd to progress the constructive discussion and correspondence with the Bosch management."

## 'Wales not a digital guinea pig'

**I** WAS sorry to read in the GEM on April 8 that James Wild is having trouble receiving ITV Wales ('Give us back our old analogue TV').

Digital switchover is now complete in Wales, and the vast majority of viewers have made the change without experiencing problems.

Those who do have reception issues can contact Digital UK on 08456 50 50 50 for initial advice.

After that, it may be necessary to consult a professional aerial engineer, who can assess the suitability of the aerial, the condition of cabling, and so on.

We recommend looking for a registered digital installer (RDI) who carries the 'digital tick' logo. If you can't find an RDI locally, look for someone with associate RDI or CAI plus status - or ask your local electrical retailer.

Wales is by no means a guinea pig for digital television. Nine out of ten households in the UK have already gone digital, and parts of England and Scotland have also completed switchover.

However, Wales is rightly proud to be the first nation to complete the process, and Freeview has become available to almost all Welsh viewers as a result.

Emyr Hughes, Cardiff (National Manager, Wales Digital UK)

# Two military men are on parade as new deputy Lieutenants



Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams with newly-appointed Deputy Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Col Barrie Davies (second left), his wife, Ruth, and current Deputy Lieutenant Colin Jones, of Barry.

**TWO Barry residents have been appointed as deputy Lieutenants for South Glamorgan.**

Col Barrie Davies, OBE, and Brigadier Rick Libbey, together with a number of previously appointed deputy Lieutenants, assist the Lord Lieutenant (Dr Peter Beck) as his 'eyes and ears' across the county and can also represent him at local ceremonies and official events.

Col Davies is Commandant of Dyfed and Glamorgan Army Cadet Force and received an OBE in last year's New Year Honours list.

He said: "I am very honoured and proud to have been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the preserved County

of South Glamorgan and look forward to assisting the Lord Lieutenant in his duties."

Brigadier Libbey is currently the director of the Prince's Trust Cymru, having served 30 years in the British Army. He ended his service as the Army Commander of Wales based in Brecon.

Welcoming the appointments, Vale Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams said: "South Glamorgan is a preserved county of Wales for purposes such as the lieutenantancy, and is fortunate to have such a diverse mixture of deputy Lieutenants, whose backgrounds and collective experience is so varied and rich."

**RIGHT: Brigadier Rick Libbey has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the preserved County of South Glamorgan.**



The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre. (Telephone 01656 725219).

## Charlie in need of patient TLC



ABOVE: Charlie.

**THIS WEEK:** Charlie is a six-year-old English Springer.

A centre spokeswoman writes: "He's a complex dog who is sensitive when handled and can be reactive in situations he feels threatened in."

"He needs time to get to know and trust people. In other ways he is typical of his breed, being active and very playful."

"He has mixed with other dogs but is under socialised and struggles to make friends so he will need further help with his socialising."

"He is housetrained and fine to be left for a few hours."

"He needs a home with an experienced owner and he is not suitable with children."

"His new owner will need to be calm, patient and consistent with his handling, to allow him to build up trust with them."

"Charlie is a strong character but in the right home he'll make a rewarding companion."

"Anyone interested in him will need to visit him a few times at the centre."

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# FOLLOW THE (Vale Council) LEADER



ABOVE: The scene at Cowbridge Comprehensive when work began on the new school during last year's summer holidays.



by COUN  
**GORDON KEMP**  
Leader of the Vale Council

**MUCH is happening in the Vale and at the council; since my column last month, we have seen the final section of the Ponty Werin put into position.**

This new footbridge, which links Penarth and Cardiff Bay, should open in June and I am sure walkers and cyclists will appreciate the latest addition to the Vale.

Like many residents, I am looking forward to seeing work start on Penarth Heights, and hopefully, Crest Nicholson will now start preliminary works.

I was not surprised to see that a recent survey labelled the site the worst eyesore in Wales.

I am sure many of us will be glad when the old Billybanks estate is

demolished and new homes have been built.

Work is progressing well on the new Cowbridge Comprehensive School and the pupils and staff can look forward to working in their new school from September.

There could be changes at our leisure centres, too.

We are investigating the possibility of a partnership with the private sector, which will bring improvements to the centres and the services offered.

Sadly, some councils in the UK are considering closing leisure facilities. We hope that with the right partnership we will be able to protect the future of our leisure centres.

Areas across the UK, including the Vale, are twinned with towns around the world. At the

Vale, we want to give real meaning to these arrangements and a new organisation fostering links between the Vale and its twin and friendship towns has been formed.

The Vale of Glamorgan Twinning Association will promote, support and develop links with the Vale's twin towns: Fécamp in France, Mouscron in Belgium and Rheinfelden in Germany, as well as with Jurbarkas in Lithuania and Neumarkt in Italy, with whom we have friendship agreements.

We have agreed a three-year funding package for the association and we hope to see it become self-sustaining in the future.

We now know the date of the general election and the electoral

team at the Vale Council are working hard to make sure we are ready for polling day.

There are thousands of polling cards to be distributed, scores of polling stations and clerks to organise, not to mention the logistics of making sure ballot boxes are delivered across the Vale and, at the close of voting, securely transported to the counting centre.

Then there is a long night of counting the votes before the result is declared.

*I hope we will see a good turnout in the Vale, with residents taking advantage of their democratic right to vote.*

**RIGHT:** Pictured, left to right are (Back row): Iris Debley, Ken Williams, arts development officer Tracey Harding, Rhian Ellis-Davies, Andrew Whinney. Front row: Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams and consort (far right), with Richard O'Connell.



## Art competition winners collect prizes from Mayor

**WINNERS of the Vale Council's first art competition, at Art Central last December, have been welcomed at a civic reception.**

The 'Spirit of Winter' competition was part of the winter season of exhibitions. Artists living in the Vale were invited to submit pieces in three different categories – experienced professionals, amateur and upcoming artists (aged 16-20).

A council spokes-

woman explained that a public vote was held to choose winners for part of the competition, with one piece of work being chosen from each category.

In the professional category, Iris Debley was chosen as winner, with her piece 'Cold Poppies' – a contrast of ice blue poppies against a green background in oil and acrylic.

Ken Williams won the amateur category with his impressive landscape watercolour 'Winter at Porthkerry', showing the

church that stands in the park.

In the young person's category, Andrew Whinney was chosen for his light-reflecting mosaic entry 'Snowflake', which caught the eye of the public.

In addition, Michael Goode, arts development officer for the Arts Council of Wales, and Rebecca Spooner, project manager at Women's

Arts Association, assisted in selecting the judges' choice winners.

They finally agreed on two winning pieces – 'The Ice Man' by Richard O'Connell, a frosty-faced image in oil pastel; and 'Northern Lights' by Rhian Ellis-Davies, a glazed mixed-media work depicting a traditional robin standing on a rainbow of fragmented glass.

### EMAIL US!

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## Three sell-out performances by Changing Scene talent!



LEFT: The boys and girls of the group, who performed three sell-out shows at the Barry Arts Hall.

THE Changing Scene Dance Company held its spring show at the Barry Arts Hall recently, and it proved a tremendous success, with a sell-out at all three performances.

The boys and girls in their new uniforms displayed a wealth of talent and enthusiasm, from the youngest to the eldest. The show was both modern and upbeat, with a varied collection of music, song and dance. The audience showed their appreciation as they joined in

the well-known lyrics. The next show *West End to Broadway*, will be held from July 14-17. The books are open for new pupils to join. Telephone 01446 739702 or 029 2063 3217 for further information.

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## 6th RHS spring show is back on Cooper's Field

THE sixth annual Royal Horticultural Society show returns to the surroundings of Cardiff Castle on April 16-18.

It features show gardens created by top Welsh horticultural talent, the popular schools' wheelbarrow competition, talks and

demonstrations, expert advice and numerous plants and accessories for sale.

There is also entertainment with nature trails, street entertainers and live music plus a craft village and a taste of Welsh produce in the Cafe quarter.

Among the show gardens on Cooper's Field is 'Cardiff:

Capital for Shopping' a design by the host city council that first appeared at last year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show, attracting the attention of actor Bill Nighy and Gavin and Stacey star Alison Steadman, along with a Silver Gilt medal.

'Urban Sanctuary'

is an outdoor space designed by Cardiff-based CJ Garden Designs, in conjunction with landscapers Broxton and Moruzzi. Landscapes as a comfortable and pleasing space for a late middle aged or retired couple.

This year, 61 schools in the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff areas will take part in the schools' wheelbarrow competition.

This gives local youngsters the opportunity to be creative and colourful in learning about the soil - and also the chance to win gardening vouchers for their school.

For further information, contact 020 7649 1885 or [www.rhs.or.uk/cardiff](http://www.rhs.or.uk/cardiff)

## 'Don't park on the pavement' drivers warned

THE neighbour-hood police team in Sully is stepping up patrols to combat the increasing problem caused by motorists who park their vehicles partly on the pavements.

"This has become a particular problem outside the One Stop Shop in the centre of the village," said neighbourhood PCSO Andrew Sweeney.

"Vehicles often block the pavement in front of the shop, making it very difficult for pedestrians, especially those with prams or pushchairs, to pass by safely.

"We have issued a number of warning notices to motorists who have blocked the pavement and repeat offenders will now be issued with Fixed Penalty Notices."

## Athletic bowlers off to perfect start

ON Saturday, Barry Athletic Bowls Club raised the curtain on their 99th season in perfect conditions in what was a unique family affair.

Club captain Geoff Whittaker's choice of bowler to open the green for the new season, was his 90-year-old father, Gordon!

Athletic chairman, Alf Pidduck, welcomed new members to the Island club and also those who have decided to return to the private greens line-up.

Mr Pidduck reminded members that the centenary year was fast approaching and that the next few months should see an impressive build-up to the club's 2011 milestone.

Centenary committee chairman, Don Evans,

reports good progress in plans for next year, to include additional matches against leading WBA opposition. A brochure covering the 100 eventful years of the only private greens club in the town, is also taking shape.

A further honour has come Barry Athletic's way with the confirmation of first team skip, Chris Blake, as a member of the Wales Commonwealth Games team for Delhi in October.

Robert Horgan, a regular in the Welsh Indoor and Outdoor bowls squads for many seasons, is named as standby reserve for Delhi.

The Athletic open their fixtures this weekend with two friendlies. The first team are at Pontyclun and the second squad entertain Pontyclun's 'A' side.

## Is it the end for £100,000 service? Vale bus link to airport to be axed at end of May

A local councillor has expressed frustration that the rail shuttle bus service from Rhose village train station to Cardiff Airport is to be axed.

Coun Jeff James told The GEM: "I understand that the airport is under commercial pressure because of the downturn in the economy, but this is a disappointment."

A spokeswoman for the airport confirmed last week that the service, which costs £100,000 a year to run, would end on May 31.

She explained: "We are disappointed that we have to do so as we fully support public transport. However, as a private company it is not viable to continue funding the service which does not affect airport passenger numbers."

"We look to work with both the Welsh Assembly Government and Vale Council on an alternative solution."

"In the mean time Cardiff Airport is most encouraged by the prospect of an increased frequency, increased quality bus link between Cardiff Airport and Cardiff city centre. This project is being managed by the Welsh Assembly Government and we anticipate this improved service will commence in autumn 2010."

It is that new link between Cardiff and the airport which Coun James, who is the Vale cabinet's member for transport, believes may have hastened the demise of the Rhose shuttle.

He pointed out that an Assembly consultation into improved access to the Vale proposed funding for an improved Five Mile Lane, and a bus link from the capital to the

by TIM CHAPMAN

airport which, he said, would be in competition with the railway.

Coun James argued that ending the Rhose service could be premature: "In 2014 there will be a half hourly train service through the Vale, so with passenger numbers likely to go up it doesn't seem the right time to be cutting the link between the station and the airport."

A Welsh Assembly

spokesman appeared to offer a glimmer of hope for the Rhose shuttle: "This service is funded by the airport operator and not Welsh Assembly Government. It is for them to decide if they wish to fund the service."

"However, we are aware that the airport operator is considering withdrawing the airport - Rhose bus link and we will be working with them and the local authority to explore how we can work together to keep the service running."

## Sports finish the season on a high

THE final league game of the season saw Sully Sports RFC face Sea View in a local derby.

The Sports were intent on continuing their impressive run. They have not lost a league game at home this season, and haven't lost since October.

Sully's pack totally dominated, which allowed the backs to create mayhem. The game was effectively over in the first quarter after three early tries.

There was no way back for the View who could not get a foothold in the game.

This report could run to many paragraphs about how well the Sports played collectively and individually, but that has been on display for the majority of the season.

With a bit of training and self belief at the start of the season, they could have secured top spot. Nevertheless, they will be happy with second.

Things are looking up

at the club, after a successful season and a grant to renew the training pitch.

The club is now seeking a head coach and hopes to resurrect its second team next season, with a number of the youth stepping up.

Congratulations boys on not only a great result, but a fantastic season.

**Final score: Sully Sports 42, Seaview 14.**

Try Scorers: Mike Mees (2), Dean Russell, Peter Mees, Dave Stillman, Mike Saunders (one try and six conversions).

Team; Andrew Penberthy, Jason Newland, Jody Velda, Justin Di Tomaso, Mike Angove, John Thomas, Dean Russell, Scott Mills, Mike Saunders, Mike Mees, Craig Buckland, Peter Mees, Ian Moore, Wayne Jones, Dave Stillman, Ken Hughes, Matt Phillips, Dave Western, Andy Stillman, Lance Godfrey, Dan Stillman.

OW

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 613.

● £2000: 365330.  
● The rollover, which now stands at £1,000, was not claimed this week.

● £10: 432259; 441414; 608996; 799545; 220956; 879509; 781275; 461853; 242356; 412065; 324197; 844999; 209159; 724590; 807938; 617905; 168392; 307442; 635877;

862035; 460114; 204604; 126570; 117219; 515722; 211562; 326524; 845814; 520843; 826452; 209065; 698158; 489864; 569660; 656912; 617919; 435611; 147900; 823897; 382105; 545813; 427953; 443721; 482585; 626429; 171625; 699288; 580047; 327026; 748998; 458453; 307772; 163713; 328559; 596837; 352068; 547509; 645612; 635325; 317415.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

## Family Solicitor RETURNS TO HER WELSH ROOTS

### SOUTH WALES-BASED family law specialist Kathryn McTaggart has experienced some life changes of her own in recent weeks.

As well as a new husband, a stepson and a move back across the Severn Bridge, she has taken a position with 'virtual' law firm Woolley & Co, a specialist family law firm with 19 lawyers based throughout the country.

Throughout her career, Kathryn has worked in London and the South East dealing with divorce and separation issues, as well as related financial matters. She has achieved success in a number of High Court cases involving complex and cutting edge children issues. Kathryn's own personal life has given her a perfect insight into the changing face of modern families and the potential challenges they face.

Kathryn is based just outside of Pontyclun, close to the Vale of Glamorgan and ideally situated in the ever expanding Cardiff commuter belt. Her links with the area go right back to her childhood and she has always maintained a strong and expansive network of family, friends and contacts here in Wales.

Kathryn trained as a collaborative

lawyer, committing to the resolution of disputes without Court proceedings where possible and has worked overseas as a family mediator (as well as running a theatre company in her spare time!). She is very much looking forward to using her skills and knowledge working with her local community.

Unlike other lawyers Kathryn works flexible hours and is happy to meet clients wherever suits them (at their place of work or even in a relaxed coffee shop!) and, if preferred, do the majority of work by telephone and email. Kathryn is committed to being up front and transparent with clients, and Woolley & Co offer fixed fees so clients can budget with no nasty surprises.

Kathryn is committed to providing a family law service that acknowledges the trauma of separation whilst remaining forward looking. She is committed to preserving dignity and honour in the worst of situations. Unafraid to be firm, she has first hand knowledge that people often have to continue their relationships long after separation. Believing the proof of the pudding is always in the eating, Kathryn is proud to display her client testimonials on the Woolley & Co website - [www.family-lawfirm.co.uk](http://www.family-lawfirm.co.uk)

If you want advice on divorce or relationship breakdown, or if you are about to enter a new relationship and want to protect your assets take advantage of Kathryn's free half hour initial consultation.

Call on 0845 680 2507 (local rate) or email [Kathryn.McTaggart@family-lawfirm.co.uk](mailto:Kathryn.McTaggart@family-lawfirm.co.uk)

(Woolley & Co is a member of the Law Society and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority; registration number is 223060)

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# REFURBISHING & UPDATING GRAND SALE!

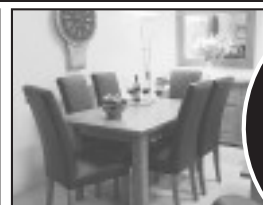
## £500,000 FURNITURE FOR IMMEDIATE DISPOSAL!

Now, to improve the store for the future, we will proceed with a massive refurbishing and re-merchandising project - new lighting, new ranges, new displays and decor! We must clear the floor without delay, so that this major work may commence. **The store is presently closed while we reduce prices and prepare the displays for the launch of our £500,000 REFURBISHING & UPDATING GRAND FURNITURE SALE.**

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# APPROACHING BRIDGEND...

## Ewenny Road/Five Bells Road/Nolton Street area profile

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## HOW BRIDGEND'S TRADERS KEEP TRADITIONS ALIVE

# Not in town centre yet not out of town...but shops (and shoppers) know their place!

*This week, The GEM takes a look at one of Bridgend's best known shopping areas, from Nolton Street and on to Ewenny Road. The area has been a hub of retail activity for more than 100 years – and a home to many of Bridgend's historic family businesses. Do those traditions still live on in the present day? The answer from traders and local residents alike is a very firm Yes!*



• Ewenny Road, looking back to Nolton Street.

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**T**HERE is plenty of discussion these days about the retail trade, particularly in light of an economic situation that has seen consumers having to tighten their belt.

Questions like – What are the latest shopping trends?

Are sales in the high street up or down?

Are the supermarkets too powerful?

Not too mention an old favourite, the

never-ending arguments about the relative merits of shopping in the town centre or in 'out of town' retail parks.

So, traders who are situated in that 'in between' area between the town centre and out of town could easily start to feel overlooked – unless they have built up a reputation for exceptional personal service.

One such area that fits this bill is the stretch of Nolton Street that heads south towards the Brynteg

Comprehensive School, before becoming Ewenny Road.

It may be only about 600 yards long, with an interesting offshoot that is Five Bells Road – but over the years it has been a fine breeding ground for new, young, imaginative businesses.

It is still true today, although someone driving through at night might draw the mistaken conclusion that it is dominated by takeaways.

In fact, the shops along the street offer a

fine mix of retail options – from antiques to home furnishings, from jewellery to fashion, and from cycles to groceries.

Scattered around the area are service businesses, including health and beauty, hairdressing, dentistry and herbal medicine.

And when it comes to food, the choice is impressively wide – from delicatessen to evening dining, and from breakfast to a fine choice of take-aways.

Competition between these outlets, of course, keeps prices keen and value for money high.

And competition is not the only factor that means areas such as Nolton Street/ Ewenny Road offer such good value for money.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

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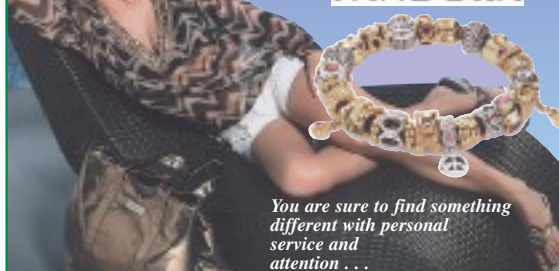
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# APPROACHING BRIDGEND...

## Ewenny Road/Five Bells Road/Nolton Street area profile

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



# Hidden delights take shoppers by surprise

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

The obvious advantage of trading in an 'in between' area is that shop rents are not as high, so the savings can be passed on to the customer.

Also, lower rents and rates mean that it is easier to start up a new business – one perhaps where the proprietor has a bright idea, but needs to start small and allow the fledgling business to grow.

In New York, they talk about 'Broadway' and 'off Broadway'. Broadway is where you find the

blockbuster shows with big casts and high costs.

Along 'off Broadway', you will find shows with a new idea, or an original plot. Something that will turn out to be big in future years.

As is the case here, if a business idea is really on the button, it tends to become a springboard for similar outlets.

That successful idea might move on – to be replaced by another budding entrepreneur with a dream.

However, this unique area of Bridgend also features

a sizeable number of businesses that have found their niche, have been established for quite some time, and have a solid base of loyal customers.

One thing that should never be under-estimated is that businesses in this part of Bridgend, in the main, are owner-occupied, giving a level of personal service that you will rarely find in an identikit chain store.

They are clear proof that there is no substitute for having a personal stake in a business when it comes to taking care

of your customers!

Nolton Street, Ewenny Road and Five Bells Road might, when you are driving to catch the train, or commuting to work, may be an area that you have paid little attention to in the past.

However, take a little trouble and shoppers will find that there is far more there than meets the eye!

PI



ABOVE:  
MPN Windows is a business that is based in Ewenny Road.



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# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Post Office apology for poor service

POST OFFICE customer care has apologised to Maesteg Town Council for the poor service provided at the town post office.

After complaints were made, the branch manager was contacted and he said that they had run short of cash on two occasions, which was outside his control.

An extra staff member has now joined the branch to reduce queuing times and he has given an assurance that customers are now receiving the level of service they expect.

Ogmore MP Huw Irranca Davies told the town council that the post office was suffering increased pressure due to the closure of the three sub post offices in the town. He is looking into the situation and will report back.

Ogmore AM Janice Gregory has also contacted Royal Mail's Senior Welsh Affairs manager to express her concerns at the complaints raised about the post office in Maesteg.

## Police hunt creepers in Caerau

POLICE have been investigating a spate of creeper burglaries in Caerau.

Insp Steve Evans told Maesteg Town Council that these took place at night when thieves had gone around trying doors and if they found one unlocked, entering the premises.

"We have cracked this particular spate but I would warn people to keep their doors locked," he said.

"They are opportunists who find an unlocked door and they are in and out very quickly, taking what they can. They are after things like laptops, cameras and cash.

"They also try car doors and if they find one unlocked, they go in and steal the sat-nav or anything left in the car."

He said that there had also been some burglaries in Maesteg West which are being investigated.



# Rhose Lifeguards handed their championship medals

**ON Monday, April 5, Rhose Lifeguard Club braved the elements and held their annual Easter barbecue and egg hunt.**

This proved not only to be a great social/fundraising event but also provided an ideal opportunity to present the medals won at the recent Great British and Welsh Stillwater Championships to the club members that competed.

The Nipper, Youth and Senior sections each gained fifth place at the Great British Stillwater Championships in Cardiff and the medal winners were:

Nippers (team manager - Andy Wall): Morgan Strinati - 1st, 8 year Obstacle, 1st, 8 year Flipper and 1st, 8 year Manikin races; Oliver Wong - 3rd, 9 year Manikin Race; Kate Griffin - 2nd, 12 year Obstacle, 2nd, 12 year Flipper and 1st, 12 year Manikin races; Cara Addison-Smyth - 2nd, 11 year Flipper and 1st, 11 year Manikin races; Sophia Stinati - 3rd, 11 year Manikin Race; Lauren Williamson - 1st, 13 year Obstacle, 2nd, 13 year Flipper and 1st, 13 year Manikin races; Lauren Baron, Laura Braggins, Tayla Edgerton and Kate Griffin - 2nd, 13 year Girls Manikin Relay; Catherine Dutton, Kelsey Peterson, Rachel Richards, Lauren Williamson - 3rd, 13 year Girls Manikin Relay; Cara Addison-Smyth, Laura Braggins, Kate Griffin and Lauren Williamson - 2nd, 13 year Girls Medley Relay;

Sophia Strinati and Cara Addison-Smyth - 2nd, 11 year Board Rescue; Laura Braggins and Alex Moss - 3rd, 13 year Board Rescue; Lauren Williamson and Rachel Richards - 1st, 13 year Board Rescue; Kate Griffin and Kelsey Peterson - 1st, 12 year Rescue Tube.

Youth (team manager - Lee Perry): Lauren Williamson (under-13) - 1st, Obstacles, 2nd, 50m Manikin, 2nd, 100m Manikin Carry, 1st, 100 Manikin Tow; Lana Evans (under-19) - 2nd Obstacles, 2nd, 50m Manikin, 3rd, 100m Manikin Tow, 1st, Rescue Medley, 1st Super Lifesaver; Girls under-14 Medley Relay - 1st; Girls under-19 Medley Relay - 3rd; Boys under-19 Medley Relay - 2nd; Boys under-19 Manikin Relay - 2nd; Boys under-19 Obstacle Relay - 3rd.

Congratulations to Lauren Williamson (under-13 Manikin Tow) and Kathryn Gardner, Lauren Blake, Lauren Williamson and Rachael Richards (under-14 Medley Relay), who set new British records for their events.

Seniors (team manager - Lee Perry): Lana Evans 1st, Obstacle, 1st, 50m Manikin, 1st, Rescue Medley.

The Masters section, also managed by Lee Perry, gained fourth place, medal winners were: Liz Wong (35-39) 2nd, Obstacle, 2nd, 50m Manikin, 2nd, 100 Manikin Carry, 3rd, 100m Manikin Tow; Simon Parker (40-44) 3rd, 50m

Manikin, 3rd, 100 Manikin Tow, 3rd, Rescue Medley; Karen O'Donoghue Harris (40-44) 2nd, 100 Manikin Tow.

The Nipper section achieved fourth place in the Welsh Stillwater Championships held in Swansea.

Medal winners were: Morgan Strinati - 2nd, 8 year Obstacle, 3rd, 8 year Flipper, 3rd, and 2nd, 8 year Manikin races; Oliver Wong - 3rd, 9 year Obstacle, 2nd, 9 year Board and 3rd, 9 year Manikin races; Jessica Wadey - 1st, 10 year Board race; Kate Griffin - 2nd, 12 year Obstacle, 2nd, 12 year Flipper and 1st, 12 year Manikin races; Sophia Stinati - 3rd, 11 year Obstacle, 2nd, 11 year Flipper and 2nd, 11 year Manikin races; Cara Addison-Smyth - 2nd, 11 year Obstacle, 1st, 11 year Flipper and 1st, 11 year Manikin races; Rhys Gardner - 3rd, 11 year Board and 3rd, 11 year Manikin races; Laura Braggins - 1st, 13 year Board race; Lauren Williamson - 1st, 13 year Obstacle, 1st, 13 year Flipper, 2nd, 13 year Board and 1st, 13 year Manikin races; Rachel Richards and Lauren Williamson - 1st, 11-13 year Rescue Tube race.

The Youth and Senior sections gained second place.

Medal winners were: Youth: Lana Evans - 1st, under-19 Rescue Medley, 3rd, under-19 Manikin Tow with Fins, 3rd, under-19 Manikin Carry, 1st, under-19 Manikin Carry with

Fins; Charles Grandfield - 2nd, Manikin Carry, 1st, under-19 Rescue Medley; Rhys Perry - 3rd, under-19 Manikin Carry, 3rd, under-19 Rescue Medley; Luke Giddings - 2nd, under-16 Manikin Carry, 1st, under-16 Rescue Medley; Dan Owen - 3rd, under-16 Manikin Carry; Luis Evans - 3rd, under-16 Manikin Carry with Fins; Lauren Williamson - 3rd, under-14 Manikin Tow with Fins, 2nd, under-14 Manikin Carry with Fins; Rowan Miller - 3rd, under-14 Manikin Carry.

Girls under-19 - 3rd, Obstacle Relay, 3rd, Manikin Relay, 2nd, Medley Relay.

Boys under-19 - 1st, Medley Relay, 1st, Obstacle Relay, 1st, Manikin Relay.

Girls under-16 - 2nd, Obstacle Relay, 3rd, Rescue.

Boys under-16 - 2nd, Medley Relay.

Senior: Lana Evans - 1st, Obstacle, 2nd, Manikin Carry, 2nd, Rescue Medley.

Open Women - 3rd, Obstacle Relay, 1st, and 2nd, Rope Rescue, 3rd, Medley Relay.

The Masters section gained third place, the medal winners were: Karen O'Donoghue-Harris - 1st, 40+ Obstacle, 1st, 40+ Manikin Tow with Fins, 2nd, 40+ Manikin Carry, 2nd, 40+ Manikin Carry with Fins; Janine Cordy - 3rd, 40+ Obstacle; Sarah Bryant - 3rd, 30+ Manikin Carry; Dave Cooper - 1st, 50+ Obstacle,

3rd, 50+ Manikin Carry, 1st, 50+ Rescue Medley; Simon Parker - 2nd, 40+ Rescue Medley, 1st, 40+ Manikin Tow with Fins; 30+ Women Masters - 1st, Rope Rescue; 30+ Mixed Masters - 2nd, Medley Relay, 3rd, Manikin Relay; 40+ Mixed Masters - 3rd, Obstacle Relay 1st, Medley Relay, 2nd, Manikin Relay.

Many thanks to those that competed, to parents and helpers that helped out throughout the competitions and to Andy Wall and Lee Perry for doing a great job as team managers.

## Rhose Lifeguards excel in Sheffield

A SMALL team of Rhose Lifeguard Members competed at the RLSS Stillwater Championships in Sheffield.

Up against some excellent competition, they did very well and brought home several medals: Lana Evans - Open Female 200m Obstacle, Silver; Rhys Perry - 15-17 Boys 100m Obstacle, Bronze.

Men's Open Relay Obstacle - 5th place; Rhys Perry - Manikin Carry With Fins, Silver; Men's Open Relay Manikin Carry - 4th place; Manikin Tow With Fins - Charlie Grandfield, Silver and Rhys Perry, Gold (setting new RLSS record).

ELAINE EDGERTON

## Rotary learn of Battle of Mametz Wood



A vote of thanks was given by Rotarian Ged Crosby, pictured here with the speaker Gavin Davies.

DINAS POWYS Rotary Club recently welcomed to its dinner meeting at the Huntsmans Restaurant Mr Gavin Davies, a local historian and expert in First World War battles.

He gave a very interesting talk and presentation on the Battle of Mametz Wood. On July 7, 1916, seven days into the battle of the Somme, the men of the 38th (Welsh) Division (known as Lloyd George's Welsh Army) were directed to capture the formidable Mametz

Wood, advancing suicidally uphill over open ground against sweeping machine gun and intense artillery fire.

The attacks, ending on July 12 in the clear-ance of the wood, saw vicious hand-to-hand fighting and innumerable acts of courage - and more than 4,000 Welsh deaths and casualties.

He concluded by explaining to the gathered Rotarians that 11 years ago a memorial was erected at Mametz in the form of a Welsh dragon and that much more fundraising is required to maintain this piece of Welsh history.

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## NEWS FROM THE PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

### New law could change way we use computers

**CAN anyone read your mind? New legislation seems to think so.**

The Digital Economy Bill was given its Third Reading by the House of Commons in the "Wash Up" on April 7.

The Wash Up is the name given to the parliamentary scurry of horse-trading to complete the progress of bills into law between the announcement of an election and the actual cessation of parliamentary business. ]

The Bill is now complete, except for Royal Assent to pass it into law.

It covers a range of matters to do with the digital economy. You might agree with some measures, but they have all been passed, in spite of many potential problems that were pointed out in the meagre two hours allowed for the debate.

It is notable that many proposals for improvement were dropped under pressure of time. There is a vague undertaking to look at them further in the new parliament, but that will be after it has become law.

Much of the time was spent on the question of copyright.

Certainly there is a problem with the stealing (for that is what it is) of intellectual property (musical composition being the most common).

Under our present copyright system, the composer or author owns the copyright and they are going to be deprived of royalties if their work is pirated.

The existing law allows for redress, but is ineffective if the copyright owner has to sue each individual for damages for infringement.

It is essentially unenforceable at that level.

The bill is intended primarily to catch anyone exploiting the infringement for financial gain.

There is a problem: the offender could be offering his wares from a web site on the other side of the globe. (Of course, any individual makes a financial gain if he doesn't pay the price.)

In the meantime, if you are downloading illegally, the copyright owner can have your IP address and can ask your Internet Service Provider (ISP) to stop you.

After a couple of warning letters, the ISP will be required to terminate your service. The awkward bit is that you could be entirely innocent.

A small business could lose its service because it is being used by an unauthorised person for downloads. It could happen to you if you do not protect your wireless hub from being hi-jacked.

And here's the killer: a service can be terminated if it is the means for copyright infringement in the past, present or likely to be in the future!

All internet traffic will need to be read to establish present offences, but who reads your mind about your future intentions?

The whole model of copyright and the reward for creation may need rethinking. If the rewards diminish, so will the production and everyone will be the poorer.

Pay a reasonable price to the copyright holder. Paying nothing is rarely reasonable.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 27. It will comprise forums on topics of immediate interest. Visitors and new members always welcome.

For more information call 029 2070 8439.  
**HOWARD DESMOND**

## News from the Boverton WI

**AFTER the usual business, members were treated to a very interesting talk and demonstration on Clarins makeup, by Val from Lloyds' Chemist in Cowbridge.**

She gave a brief resumé of how it started and the importance of cleansing before making up, stressing that make-up is fun and really does improve the feeling of well being!

She didn't suggest she could make people look younger, but by using subtle make-up, especially on the eyes, they can look much livelier!

Liz Lewis gave the vote of thanks and also won the competition for the best spring bloom. Wendy Hart won the raffle.

The next meeting is 'Resolutions' and is on May 13.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

### EMAIL US!

● WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: [ggem@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:ggem@internet-today.co.uk)



## OUT of TOWN FEATURE

Pontyclun, Talbot Green & Neighbouring Areas



# Small town shops that are the beating heart of a community

**ONE major impact of the recession has been to change people's shopping habits.**

Lots of families are now choosing to shop locally and avoid the temptation of aisle upon aisle of ready meals and other expensive food stuffs at a time when they are having to watch their budgets.

It's at times like these that small town centres like Pontyclun and Talbot Green really

come into their own.

Here, shoppers have a choice of good quality produce from butchers, greengrocers, bakeries, delicatessens and the like, without encountering the pile-em-high mentality of many supermarkets which dazzle and bemuse shoppers with so much choice that it's often impossible to tell if something is actually a bargain.

Is the three-for-the-price-of-two offer really a bargain, if you end up throwing away half of the food because you

cannot eat it all in time?

It may have been cheaper just to buy the amount you need and can actually eat. That's where small shops win out. In a greengrocer's you can buy one or two apples, three or four tomatoes – in fact, any quantity you like. Nothing is pre-packed and pre-weighed.

At the local butcher's, you can get a single chop and a few rashers of bacon – the right amount for you.

And in these days of increasing consciousness about food waste and its consequences on the environment in terms of landfill use, that's an important consideration.

As is food miles and carbon footprints – although 10 years ago nobody had heard of either! It was just sec-



**ABOVE: Pontyclun – where shoppers can get away from the large supermarket bustle to a friendly town with a village feel.**

ond nature then to buy foods that were locally produced.

It is the supermarkets who have introduced us to out-of-season fruit and vegetables flown thousands of miles from places like Chile and South Africa.

Far better to do what our ancestors did and eat foods in season that come from the locality.

And it's not just food that small towns can offer – in the case of Pontyclun and Talbot Green, there is also a reasonable choice of other shops catering for people's needs.

There are shops in the two towns that sell clothing, household goods, gifts, flowers and there are chemists where you can get your toiletries and much more besides. There are also many services available.

The other point about small towns is the better service you get from people who often own their shops, and who are keen to please and quick to respond to

local demand.

And there is also the satisfaction you get from supporting communities and keeping town centres vibrant.

The world – and Wales in particular – would be a much poorer place if all our little towns lost their shops and people were reduced to shopping

only in supermarkets.

Community life would suffer because people would no longer see each other to catch up on the news.

So, support our small towns in order to keep communities alive and to save yourself money in the process. It's a win-win situation!  
**JAYNE ISAAC**



**LEFT: Pontyclun offers an impressive range of shops for the discerning shopper.**



**ABOVE: Talbot Green – behind its quiet exterior is a deceptively lively business community.**

## THE COMMUNITY SHOP 9-13 Cowbridge Rd, PONTYCLUN The Charity Shop for the connoisseur

*The shop is the venture of the parish of Pontyclun with Talgarth. We welcome customers and donations. We are willing to help other parishes looking at setting up similar projects.*

- ★ High quality clothing
- ★ Second hand books
- ★ Bric-a-brac
- ★ Children's dept - prams etc
- ★ Furniture - second hand
- ★ DVDs etc

OPEN: Monday to Saturday 9.00 am - 5.00 pm  
Tel: 01443 222444  
*We collect and deliver*

## A happy customer gives her local shop a testimonial

**I WAS in Pontyclun the other day, and you should have seen butcher John Hughes's window.**

It had pasties, pies and faggots – all beautifully displayed. I went in to purchase what I needed for the week, and there was a long fridge with all the raw meats to tickle the taste buds.

On the other side was another fridge with a

great selection of cooked meats. On top of the fridges were jars of whatever customers wanted in the way of mustards and relishes.

Everything was so clean and fresh, and with a personal service that is second to none!

Next time you are in Pontyclun, why not pop in and sample what John Hughes has got to offer. You won't be disappointed.

**T Warner, Llanharry**

## JOHN HUGHES

Award Winning Butchers  
Pontyclun

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## Local church takes on a new (distinctly Welsh) lease of life!

**PORTRHARRY**  
Road Methodist church is set to have a new lease of life – thanks to a new group of enthusiasts with exciting plans for this iconic building.

The church is currently up for sale and the group is working towards buying the building and converting it into a medium-sized community arts venue for Barry and the Vale, which will also be distinctly Welsh.

Ashley Brown, chair of Canolfan Portherci Centre (CPC), described the plans as "a perfect way forward for this lovely church and for the people of the Vale."

"We intend to work with plans drawn up some years ago for the installation of a mezzanine floor, giving an



Left to right: Karen Standed, Suzannah Delaney, Tim Pearce (treasurer), Sian Brown, Dorothy Connell (secretary), Nic Hodges, Ian Johnson, Mark Hooper, Ashley Brown (chair).

events and performance space upstairs and a suite of multifunctional rooms downstairs. There would also be a café and bookshop – a bit like a cross between the Gate and Chapter in Cardiff.

"Another strand of our proposal is for a distinctively Welsh flavour to the building – while it won't be predominantly Welsh language – you will know you're in Wales when you come into the centre."

"We want to create

somewhere accessible to and reflective of the whole community of Barry and the Vale."

The group argues that there is a need for something in between the Memorial Hall and community centres where a range of cultural events including theatre, cinema, music, dance, comedy, cabaret and exhibitions could be staged upstairs with ample opportunity for smaller events, meetings and classes.

The CPC group was formed after an open meeting in the church last month and the members are working hard on plans to raise money through their own efforts and also to apply for grants.

If you want to support CPC, join their group on facebook – canolfanportherci centre, or contact the group secretary on 01446 744914 ; dot.connell@virgin.net

DC

## It's the last chance to view Barry Theatre Royal cinema show

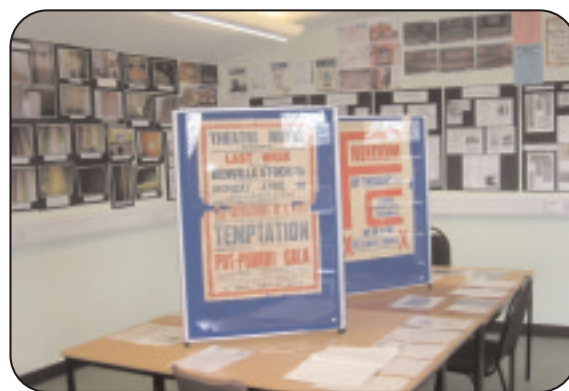
AN exhibition on the history of Barry's Theatre Royal has been extended until April 30.

Paul Sutton of the Save Our Cinema Association (SOCA), told The GEM:

"The exhibition is being held at Victoria Park's 'Room in the Park' and we have been delighted with the response of people – it's run has now been extended until April 30."

"We have received lots of comments in the visitors' book, with many people expressing their regret that the Theatre Royal closed."

The exhibition includes behind the scenes photographs, posters and press cuttings covering a period from 1910 to the present day. A wall has even been set aside to display children's artwork inspired



ABOVE: The Theatre Royal exhibition will continue at Victoria Park's 'Room in the Park' until April 30.

by a SOCA competition. Paul emphasised: "You don't have to be a cinema lover to find the exhibition interesting. For people who are interested in the history of Barry, it is worth a visit."

The cinema, and the Theatre Royal itself, have long held a fascination for Paul, who was first taken along to the Barry landmark building in the sixties.

"My parents took me to Goldfinger one Sunday evening. It was packed. Another vivid Theatre Royal memory is of going to a double bill which featured 633 Squadron and The Great Escape. We went in a 6pm and didn't get out until 10.30pm!"

## STARTLING EVIDENCE THAT THROWS NEW LIGHT ON THE UNDERGROUND TUBE CRASH

THE cause of the 1975 London Underground tube train disaster at Moorgate station became a mystery when the official who conducted the Government Inquiry into the cause of the crash concluded, in his 1976 Railway Accident Report on Moorgate that: "... the cause of this accident lay entirely in the behaviour of Motorman Newson during the final minute before the accident occurred."

"Whether his behaviour was deliberate, or whether it was the result of a suddenly arising physical condition not revealed as a result of post-mortem examination, there is not sufficient evidence to establish – but I am satisfied that no part of the responsibility for the accident rests with any other person and that there was no fault or condition of the train, track, or signalling that in any way contributed to it."

Having been a tube train driver at the same time of the disaster, I was never happy with that conclusion.

So, a little over two years ago, while I was reading a book on railway accidents, in Penarth library, I came across an account of Moorgate.

The account relied upon the railway accident report for its source of information and offered nothing new.

The cause of Moorgate was still a

### UNDERSTANDING MOORGATE: by Anthony Bright

mystery. I therefore decided to scrutinise all the available evidence in an attempt to find an actual cause.

The result of this is 'Understanding Moorgate', so titled because I take the reader through the workings of the Underground system as it existed at the time of the disaster, in order to assist the reader to understand the relevance of the evidence that was withheld or not fully pursued.

An example is that there was nothing wrong with the train equipment, based on the evidence that Motorman Newson had prepared and brought into service the train that crashed.

If he had had any concerns he would have reported them before bringing the train into service or, when in service, on the three trips he drove the train to Moorgate before the fatal trip.

Moreover, another motorman had driven the train on its first trip to Moorgate and found the train equipment, especially the two braking systems, to be working normally.

The withheld evidence suggests, however, that the train that Newson was driving was from an unofficial changeover train north to Drayton Park and, unknown to him, this

cious prank affecting the braking systems. The prank may even have caused Newson to suffer an epileptic seizure.

Evidence is usually withheld to distort the truth. Perhaps 'Understanding Moorgate' will lead to a different conclusion in a revised railway accident report on the tragedy.

• The author of this article is a former tube driver on the London Underground.

## Vale heritage coalition has launched its new website

THE group set up to lobby for a Heritage Centre for the Vale launched its website last week so that the coalition of local historians can spread their message via the internet.

Spokesman Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "Owing to the hard work of coalition members Ade Pitman and Steve Williams, we now have a professionally-designed website."

"It is already attracting visits from people throughout Wales, and indeed across the world, who all share our interest in the history of this great county. It is yet another step in our mission to bring a purpose-built building to the area which can tell the story

of our ancestors." The home page of the site sets out the coalition's aims and vision. There is a link to their 'blog' and Facebook page, biographies of the group's members and sections on the history of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Dr Hicks added: "The coalition is inviting GEM readers to log on and visit this great resource."

"There are opportunities to get involved with the group's campaign via the links on the website and to contact them if you would like to support their work."

The website address is: <http://glamorganheritage.org> or search for 'Glamorgan Heritage'.

### THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

#### Development in Conservation Areas Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No./Rhif y cais: 2010/00312/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Extension to existing bungalow and alterations to boundary wall alongside Windsor Terrace Lane  
Location/Lleoliad: The Beeches, Windsor Terrace Lane, Penarth  
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth: Penarth

#### Conservation Area Consent Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./Rhif y cais: 2010/00302/CAC  
Proposal/Cynnig: Demolition of existing derelict cottage (to be replaced by proposed new low energy dwelling and garage)  
Location/Lleoliad: Caradoc Cottage, Llanfarcarn  
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth: Llanfarcarn

#### Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./Rhif y cais: 2010/00294/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Change of use from offices (B1 use) to day nursery (D1 use)  
Location/Lleoliad: The Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge  
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhestredig: Affecting The Old Hall and 66 High Street (The Market Place Restaurant) both Grade II Listed Buildings

Application No./Rhif y cais: 2010/00328/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Erection of double storey extensions, car port and conversion of existing garage  
Location/Lleoliad: Sweetings, Llanquian Road, Aberthryn  
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhestredig: Affecting Sweetings, a Grade II Listed Building

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk)

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-vog.planning-register.co.uk

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995

### GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

#### Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No./Rhif y cais: 2009/01336/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Provision of caravan touring park including conveniences, pitches, public open space etc.  
Location/Lleoliad: 1, New Barn, Flemingston

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk)

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Dated: 15 April, 2010

Dyddiedig: 15 Ebrill, 2010

Rob Thomas  
Head of Planning and Transportation

Rob Thomas  
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant

The Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
Dock Office,  
Barry Docks,  
Barry. CF63 4RT

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,  
Swyddfa'r Doc,  
Dociau'r Barri,  
Y Barri. CF63 4RT





# HOLTON ROAD IS HOTTING UP



## Holton Road businesses give city shops a real run for their money

WITH well over 100 successful businesses operating in Holton Road, the busy Barry shopping area can claim to be an economic mainstay of the Vale.

John Lewis, who owns JPL Sound - The Barry Music Shop, has strong ideas on what has enabled local concerns to weather the worst of the recession.

He told The GEM: "The reason that we have survived is because we have kept in touch with what our customers want, and listened to them!"

"Businesses that have failed to do so have suffered."

"Last April and May, when many shops were finding it hard, we weren't quiet and were still doing business."

John has traded in

the Bassett area of Holton Road for nine years, so he has seen a few ups and downs in the economy. "What we have noticed is that people are a little more careful with their money. We're a smaller business and tend to be more competitive than some bigger shops."

"We're getting more customers from Cardiff now because of the keener prices."

Another boost has been that Weston Square at the bottom of Holton Road is open to traffic from Cardiff Road after being closed for a number of months through the winter for work to prevent flooding.



John said the strength of the business was in its staff and a high standard of

customer service:

He said: "All the staff have the technical knowledge required and know what they are talking about."

"Whenever people leave the shop they have the right thing, or we have pointed them in the right direction."

ABOVE:

The refurbished town hall of Barry is a landmark focal point for the Holton Road area.

## A Crafty Look is definitely worth a visit

A Crafty Look is a friendly local family-run business, which was established almost a year ago in Thomson Street.

Since then, the business has grown to a point where new premises were needed to allow for further growth, so 19 Holton Road, Barry, was acquired.

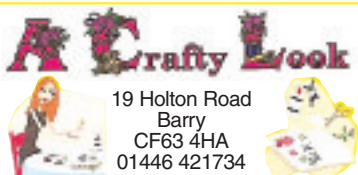
We opened our new premises in February and have been busy ever

since! We have expanded into the embroidery and personalisation market, with a number of repeat customers.

We cater for individual items, as well as hundreds of the same item if required.

We also print and embroider baby items, such as babygros, blankets and car sunshades.

Next time you are looking for something special, why not give us a try?



19 Holton Road  
Barry  
CF63 4HA  
01446 421734

Due to the success of the shop, we have moved from Thompson Street to bigger premises at:

**19 Holton Road, Barry**  
(Next to Domino's Pizza)

You can still buy all of the items that you have presently been able to buy, but we now stock a larger range of products

Why not call in and see for yourself the many items that we have to offer

**We are also the only embroidery company in Barry!!!**

Embroidered work wear a speciality

We can embroider onto almost all kinds of clothing, as well as print onto all sorts of other items, such as mugs, mouse mats, clocks, aprons, tea towels, sunshades etc.

One-offs to hundreds of items!

Please feel free to ask for a quote!

## Part exchange your pram?

AFTER five years, Ruckleys mother and baby shop is well established as a one-stop children's destination store, stocking everything from prams and baby from prams and pushchairs, to clothing, shoes, christening wear and school uniform.

Due to the economic climate and changes in customer purchases, Ruckleys are now launching their nearly-new part exchange department where, just like the motor industry, mums will be able to

browse a range of the latest must-have prams and pushchairs, including new, used and part exchange.

As always, all products come with a guarantee, giving you peace of mind, and with easy payment plan options, you'd be mad not to check them out!

For more information, call into the store, see the website, or ring the part exchange hotline on 07894 233330.

Ruckleys is open from 9.30am-5.30pm every day, and 11am-4pm Sundays; 98 Holton Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan; telephone 01446 700006  
www.ruckleys.co.uk

For Mothers & Mothers to be...



- School Gingham dresses all colours £7.99
- Crocs now in
- Part exchange on prams
- Summer buggies - hurry!
- Selection of parasols and canopies

Spaciously set over two floors, Ruckleys is the one stop children's destination store

**Ruckleys**  
98, Holton Road Barry CF63 4HJ  
Tel: 01446 700006

To Celebrate  
**NATIONAL PET MONTH**  
3rd April to 3rd May 2010

**PETS 'R' US**  
REGENT STREET  
BARRY

are inviting children to get involved by running an art competition.  
Simply submit a drawing or painting around the theme "A Happy Pet I Know".  
Hand in or post your entry, with your name, address, telephone number and age to:

**PETS 'R' US**

1a Regent Street, Barry, CF62 8DS

The winning picture will receive a

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**PETS 'R' US**

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# HOLTON ROAD IS HOTTING UP



ABOVE:  
Proprietors Tracy Kemp and Joanna Spear have been running Tan y Hyde Tanning and Beauty Salon for the last four years.

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46 Holton Road,  
Barry CF63 4HD  
Tel. 01446 745483

## Still Images on the move!

**S**TILL IMAGES was opened in December 2009 by Mark Osman. This photographic studio is situated within Chris John Framing on Thompson Street.

Mark said: "I have been overwhelmed by the number of customers requiring wedding and portrait photography since I opened."

"There has also been demand for photographic make-over sessions. The Hair and Beauty Den opposite can complete the hair and make-up for £25 and Still Images

photograph the stunning results.

"I also do portfolio work for models, and lots of family shots - including the newly-arrived babies!"

"Models will receive a free image of their choice (6 x 4) and a free portrait session. Only a limited number of places are available."

"We also offer a free 20 x 16 print with any wedding package booked by the end of May, if you mention The GEM!"

Please feel free to pop in to the studio, or give Still Images a call on 07547 202501.

## La Cucina - Keeping Holton Road customers well satisfied

**L**A CUCINA, the hottest café on Holton Road, is a very popular venue, with a constant flow of customers all day.

Many shoppers meet up with friends for an ice cold frappé or a milk shake with an Italian touch.

A firm favourite is the traditional breakfast or bagels with cream cheese and bacon.

Lunch times offer a wonderful array of

paninis and sandwiches with salami and chorizo fillings.

The homemade Spanish omelettes are a must this summer, together with summer salads of ham, avocado and Caesar salad.

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## JPL Sound offers an 'unrivalled' music service

**A**LL too often, shoppers from both Barry and the Vale seem to think that Holton Road only stretches from the Civic Offices up to the multi-storey car park opposite Holton Road School.

In fact, it carries up a lot further, and then all the way down to Weston Square.

Why not try visiting the top end of Holton Road, where you will find JPL Sound - The Barry Music Shop, plus lots of other specialist shops?

It is the leading music shop in the Vale, where all the staff are not only helpful, friendly and knowledgeable, but are all also experienced technicians and musicians.

JPL Sound has steadily grown over the years to become one of the largest outdoor PA company in south Wales, hiring all types of sound systems to cultural, leisure and sporting events throughout Wales

and the west country. They range from small local events right up to international sporting fixtures.

There is a determination to offer a personal and high-quality service by Barry Music Shop.

Whether you are looking for a new instrument or to part-exchange an existing one, right through to expert repairs on guitars, amplifiers and all pro-audio equipment, the shop can help you out.

It has always offered an unrivalled service in making up bespoke pro-audio leads while you wait, as well as stocking the biggest selection of audio, AV connectors and leads in south Wales.

Please don't forget even the simple things like batteries. Everything is stocked from the basic sizes in alkaline batteries right through to button and watch batteries (fitting service also) and re-chargeable batteries, all at very competitive prices.

Please call in at any time; you will not be disappointed!

Follow all the latest goings-on in Holton Road and the surrounding areas by logging onto The GEM online at [www.barry-today.co.uk](http://www.barry-today.co.uk)

## A great family-owned business

**B**EING the oldest established family-owned shoe repair business in Barry, Frangoulis has seen a lot of changes.

When opened in 1950, the original owner George Frangoulis, soon had a reputation for taking on the most challenging shoe repairs, and made to measure the very best in handmade shoes!

This legacy continued when Nick Frangoulis took over, not only maintaining these high standards, but expanding his services.

Key cutting was introduced in the early 1970s, and this has developed and grown over the years and the shop is

now one of the largest key stockists, including the cutting and programming of chipped car keys.

As well as making shoes, Frangoulis stock the very best in British-made quality shoes with brands such as Barkers, Cheaney, Loakes, Trickers, to name but a few.

The shop also stocks a variety of high quality leather goods - including wallets, purses, passport and travel card holders.

It has an extensive range of trophies which can also be engraved.

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## Plan ahead with Passmores on 'Lasting Plan of Attorney'

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A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is a legal document, that enables one person to make decisions on behalf of another.

Carli Evans, a member of Solicitors for the Elderly is inviting you to attend a no obligation appointment to find out more.

For more information please call:  
Carli Evans on 01446 721000  
or by email [ce@passmores.com](mailto:ce@passmores.com).

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(Look for the blue canopy)

**LAWYERS** around Wales and England are running a national 'Make a Lasting Power of Attorney' campaign - to encourage all people to plan ahead and avoid problems if they later lose mental capacity.

It means making a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) on the new version of the forms, which came into force in October 2009.

A Lasting Power of Attorney is a legal document that enables one person to make decisions on behalf of another.

There are two types of LPA: financial and welfare. Financial LPAs enables a person to act on behalf of another if, for example, they are ill or disabled and cannot act for themselves.

A welfare LPA enables a person to act on behalf of another if that person does not have the mental capacity

to act for themselves, for example, in the case of a severe stroke.

Without an LPA, it may be necessary for family members to apply to the Court of Protection for authority.

This can be a distressing and lengthy process and is far more expensive than making an LPA.

Once all parties have signed the LPA, they must then be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian before they can be used.

Carli Evans, of Passmores Solicitors and a member of Solicitors for the Elderly, is actively encouraging all people to plan ahead and make Lasting Powers of Attorneys.

People wishing to discuss their requirements, can contact Carli Evans to arrange a suitable no obligation appointment on 01446 721000, or by email at [ce@passmores.com](mailto:ce@passmores.com)



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**BODYWISE** was established more than 15 years ago and offers a wide range of beauty treatments in a relaxing, modern salon.

The salon provides a totally tranquil haven - essential for the complete relaxation of holistic therapies and facial treatments.

Jackie Howells and the team of therapists and salon aides research the beauty industry to find the latest and most up-to-date treatments and equipment to continuously introduce new beauty treatments.

Bodywise has gained the 'Investors in People'

award. Jackie provides the best working conditions and maximum training opportunities for all her staff, which she feels are important for job satisfaction for the staff - which will ensure a first class service for customers.

Bodywise uses and sells the first class skin-care Darphin by Estee Lauder, Creative Nail Design products and varnishes, China Glaze Varnishes, California Tan sunless tanning, Amphora Aromatherapy Oils and Australian Organics body and face products.

Bodywise frequently provides special offers on other treatments and products - so look out for regular promotions.

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## Paul Gentile's expert Troll kits advice

**DON'T** miss Sunday, April 18, when customers will be viewing the new limited edition Troll kits at Paul Gentile, The Capitol Centre, Cardiff.

The eye-catching sweet floral collection kits are available in two distinctive colourways, decorative pinks and vivid, vibrant blues.

The beads are individually decorated and blend beautifully together to create an irresistible combination.

There are also the new dazzling delicate hanging Tassel Beads - beautiful beads inspired by the delightful colours and patterns of a garden blooming in spring!

A spokesman said: "Join us for light refreshments, a free raffle and expert advice on your trolls."

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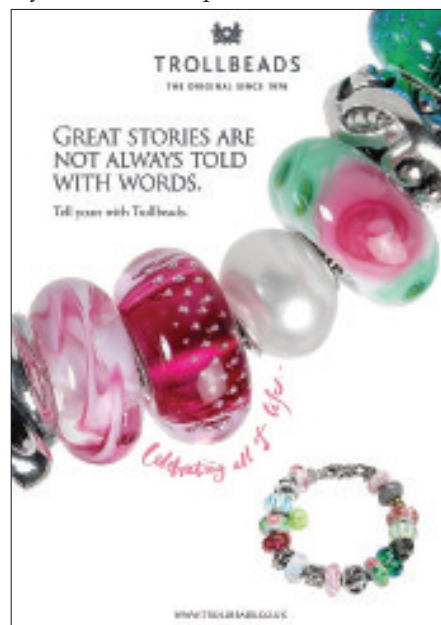
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# Drew Barrymore's directorial debut is Whip sharp, funny and is hugely entertaining

**W**HILE Hollywood seems to excel in stories of performers plumb-ing the depths before reaching the highs, there are very few whose career, and indeed life, trajectory has matched that of Drew Barrymore.

Having shone as Gert in *ET*, Barrymore proceeded to match bad career choices with drug and alcohol abuse.

Having got both her life and career back on track in the mid-90s, Barrymore has firmly established herself as one of the most influential women in cinema.

Having taken production credits on the likes of *Charlie's Angels*, *Donnie Darko* and *He's Just Not That Into You* and built up an acting resumé that balances mainstream choices with off-kilter material, it seemed a given that she would turn her attention to the director's chair, and her debut outing, *Whip It*, now hits screens.

Ellen Page plays Bliss Cavendar, a girl whose life in a small Texas town consists of beauty pageants and working at a local diner. When she finds a flyer advertising

a local roller derby event, she is mesmerised by what she sees, and decides to sign up for the Hurl Scouts team, featuring such players as Maggie Mayhem (Kristen Wiig), Smashley Simpson (Barrymore) and Rosa Sparks (Eve).

However, with Bliss' mother (Marcia Gay Harden) so keen for her daughter to excel at the pageants, and her new-found love for roller-skates, Bliss must try and balance her new life and existing one...

While many of the stars of the past have taken their skills into the sphere of directing (with Clint Eastwood arguably the most prominent and successful), today's stars seem a touch more reticent to step behind the camera.

The likes of Cruise, Crowe and Smith have rarely discussed the thought, while Tom Hanks, whose directorial debut was released in 1996, has now only just got round to starting on his second.

Given Drew Barrymore's growing prominence as a producer, her move behind the camera was highly likely – whether she would be any good at it was a different matter entirely.

Fortunately for Barrymore, and anyone who goes to watch *Whip*

*It*, she proves to be rather adept at the directing lark, creating an enjoyable film high on sass and fizz yet with enough substance behind it to make for a more satisfying watch.

Barrymore has obviously absorbed the work of directors such as Jason Reitman, whose lo-fi aesthetic is clearly a huge influence on this film, yet Barrymore shows a dexterity which is more than the sum of her influences.

She deliberately keeps her direction low-key, but draws a great deal of comedy, pathos and excitement from that, handling the film's narrative needs with careful aplomb.

While the roller derby scenes bustle with hard-hitting action and excitement, Barrymore is more concerned with the importance of the story and the characters – even the most peripheral of characters are invested with time.

It is an auspicious debut that shows a keen talent in its earliest stages.

Of course, it does help when you are gifted a cast of such strength and versatility as the one assembled here – a cast that performs just how you would expect, with skill and style.

Ellen Page may be marking herself out as the alternative female lead of choice, but she shows a real confidence and lightness of touch, taking the character of Bliss and offering a performance that captures a character discovering themselves, coming from under the umbrella of their family and standing on their own two feet.

Page has enough charisma and wits to be a superb lead-in into the

story and her turn is one of the many highlights on show, showcasing her ability for both comedy and for the dramatic.

Surrounding Page are a selection of performances that either reaffirm an actor's ability or showcase an up and coming performer.

In the former camp, the likes of Barrymore (whose more-or-less cameo turn is played for laughs), Daniel Stern, as Bliss' father, and Juliette Lewis, taking time out from being a rock star to play the Iceman to Page's Maverick in a role that works well, all put in strong shifts, bringing a pleasing degree of skill to their turns.

It is Marcia Gay Harden who is the stand-out from this crowd, the always-dependable actress lighting up the screen as Bliss' mother. Beneath the beauty pageant sheen lies a decency to do what is best for her family, and Harden really gets under the skin of a character that could easily have fallen into type.

In the 'up n' coming' section, Kristen Wiig shows she has the ability to break out from her recurring role on US TV's *Saturday Night Live* with a turn that is as much about humour as it is about being a sisterly shoulder for Bliss as she enters the world of roller derby.

Alia Shawkat (who a minority will remember from *Arrested Development*) does the best friend role to perfection, while a special mention should also go to Andrew Wilson, brother of Owen and Luke; were it not for the large amount of oestrogen on show, Wilson's Razor would come pretty much close to stealing

## SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

the show with his dry asides – yet as it is, he has to settle for being part of what is a superbly strong cast with nary a poor turn.

Shauna Cross' screenplay is adapted from her own book, and it shows the faith she has in the material to allow her story to flow so well. While it plays like a typical underdog sports film, there is also the relationships between Bliss and various people around her which works on a whole other level, plus the typical 'coming of age' element.

It all adds up to a strongly feminine story, but one that is played as broadly as possible; it may be heavy on 'girl power', but its universal themes means the film plays well regardless of gender.

If there are faults, then they are merely first-time wobbles; the story is played out slightly too long, starting to drag somewhat towards the end, while Barrymore's good taste in music may be present and correct, but there is a little too much emphasis on soundtracking every scene.

Not a huge issue when you have the likes of The Runaways, The Breeders and The Go! Team as the background, but there are points where you want what's on the screen to hold up by itself as opposed to what is on the soundtrack.

Despite that, *Whip It* is a hugely entertaining film, enjoyable to watch with a sharp, realistic script that works extremely well and bodes well for Drew Barrymore's behind-camera future.

**VERDICT** – A pleasing slice of celluloid, *Whip It* is an auspicious debut for Drew Barrymore, who shows a wonderful for direction.

Coupled with a strong script and superb turns from the likes of Ellen Page, Marcia Gay Harden and Kristen Wiig, *Whip It* is a film high on verve and excitement, yet with a storyline grounded in reality, makes for a compelling watch. *Recommended.*

## FRONTLINE HEROES...

# Welsh Medics will be honoured in freedom ceremony

**TERRITORIAL ARMY medics who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan are to be given the Freedom of the Vale of Glamorgan at a ceremony in King Square, Barry on Saturday (April 17) at 11.30am.**

Cardiff-based 203 Welsh Field Hospital (Volunteers) is the only Territorial Army medical unit in Wales, and its personnel are all part-time volunteers.

Known as 'The Welsh Medics,' they recruit from across Wales, and the council has unanimously agreed to grant them the honour in recognition of their invaluable work in saving lives.

They recruit health-care professionals from all disciplines, for example, doctors, nurses, paramedics, radiographers, physios, biomedical scientists, dentists, dental nurses, pharmacy technicians, pharmacists and health care support workers.

Tracing its roots back to the First World War, the hospital is based in Cardiff, with detachments in Swansea, Crickhowell and Llandudno. In recent times, it has deployed

personnel in support of operations abroad during the Gulf wars, the Balkans and ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan to continue its close bonds with the Regular Army medical services.

The Freedom, which is the highest tribute a county borough council can bestow, is a long-standing tradition whereby public recognition is given to individuals and/or organisations as an expression of the high esteem in which they are held both by the council in the area and its people.

In being given the honour in the Vale, the medics follow in the distinguished footsteps of the Merchant Navy Association (Wales), The Welsh Guards and The Royal Welsh.

King Square, Barry, will be the venue for the ceremony on Saturday, 17 April, when Vale Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams will present a special scroll to the unit's Commanding Officer, Col Kevin Davies.

Following the ceremony, the unit, preceded by The Band of the Royal Welsh and accompanied by a police motorcycle outrider and two police horses and riders, will parade through the town to the Barry Leisure

Centre. During the ceremony, Coun Williams and HM Lord Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Dr Peter Beck, will present medals to unit members for service in Afghanistan.

Coun Williams said: "I am delighted that we are able to recognise the unit and the valuable work they're doing both at home and abroad."

Many brave soldiers seriously injured in various conflicts owe their lives to the magnificent treatment given by units such as 'The Welsh Medics.' They continue to risk their lives to save those of others."

Col Kevin Davies said: "The Vale Council has shown its appreciation and acknowledgement of the significant contribution that Wales' Field Hospital makes in supporting UK Operations."

"The council recognition is wonderful news and we at 203 very much look forward to receiving our right to march through Barry."

• *The ceremony and parade are scheduled to take place between 11.30am and 12.30pm and motorists are advised of the likelihood of some short delays during this period.*

## Pop Quiz in the Park...

**THE Pop Quiz in the Park Hotel in Barry is looking for someone with a good memory!**

As the quiz has been going since the mid-1980s, the organiser, Brian Enos, was arranging a Silver Jubilee event for this year.

Some of the 'regulars', however, insist that the quiz, is, in fact, 26 or 27 years old! Brian remembers that he compiled and hosted the first quiz in order to settle a friendly argument between some of the regulars of the popular west-end pub, and it has just continued since then.

Other than the odd break for Christmas, the quiz has been held just about every week and has seen off at least four landlords!

They have, in the past, completed several 24-hour events in aid of local charities, and although those days are behind them, the quiz continues to attract its regulars. Brian is looking for anyone from the 'early' days to contact him, the pub, or The GEM to confirm when the quiz started.

Brian thinks that even if it's only 25 years, then they must hold the record

for the "longest-running pop quiz in the world – ever!"

The music featured includes all pop music from 1950s to current releases, and usually involves teams trying to identify tracks from 'snippets' played. Each quiz usually has a picture round and trivia questions.

New teams are welcome (any number in a team) If anyone would like to take part (or even compile a quiz), the quiz is held every Tuesday in the Park Hotel upstairs lounge, starting at 8.30pm.

There are no entry fees or prizes because, as Brian explained: "I started charging a nominal entry fee, with the money collected going back in prizes, but this made the quiz too competitive, so now we just play for fun – it doesn't really matter if you come last!"

Once the age of the quiz is established, it's planned to invite all the music fans who have attended over the years to a celebratory event.

Anyone with information, should telephone Brian on 01446 739133.

## Rotary club will check out your blood pressure

**LOCAL residents are being offered the chance to get their blood pressure checked for free on Rotary's 'Stroke and Health Awareness Day', this Saturday (April 17).**

A Rotary mobile unit will be parked in Morrison's car park at Barry and blood pressure checks will be carried out by professional nurses between 10am-4pm.

High blood pressure is thought to be one of the main causes of strokes, and the Rotary checks are being carried out in co-operation with the Stroke Association – an annual event which the

Rotary Club of Barry has been supporting for several years.

The people most at risk from strokes are those over 50 years old.

The president of Barry Rotary Club, Don Carsley, said:

"There are many otherwise healthy people walking about not knowing that they have a high blood pressure, and therefore at a higher risk of having a stroke."

"In fact, two of our club members have suffered this way. Identifying the problem early gives people the opportunity to raise the issue with their doctor and seek appropriate treatment – a very simple step just requiring medication."

## Heritage Coast through the eye of an artist

**AN exhibition of artist Joan Baker's paintings has been on display at the Senedd and in the Pierhead Building, with a focus on the Heritage Coast.**

Hosted by Jane Hutt AM, the exhibition continues in the Pierhead until the end of April and is "well worth a visit", she says.



Jane Hutt AM with the painting *Marcross: Large Wreck after Winter Storm 1985* by Joan Baker.

## Ladies choir in concert

**BARRY Ladies Choir present their annual spring concert at Crossway Methodist Church Hall, Court Road, Barry, on Saturday, April 24 at 7pm.**

The choir will be conducted by musical director Alice Jones, and accompanied by Emma Arscott.

Tickets are £5 (children half price) available from choir members; at the door, or telephone 01446 746495.

There will be refreshments and raffle. Proceeds are to fund the choir's twinning visit to Fécamp in June for a national festival.

## Bro Radio wins Assembly grant

**BRO RADIO of Barry, is one of six community radio stations in Wales receiving grants totalling £100,000 from the Welsh Assembly's Community Radio Fund.**

The station has just been granted £17,941. Heritage Minister, Alun

Fired Jones said: "These radio stations play a valuable role in reflecting the issues affecting people living in these communities. They also provide opportunities for residents to gain new skills and in some cases employment."

"I'm very pleased to announce these grants and to congratulate the stations on the important role they play in their communities."

*We welcome your news and views. Please email them to: [ggem@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:ggem@internet-today.co.uk)*



# Out and About with The GEM

## Colin's 50th birthday goal for Ty Hafan

COLIN JONES of Dinas Powys Rotary Club set himself a 50th birthday challenge – to cycle the length of Wales from Holyhead to Cardiff, in aid of Ty Hafan and Rotary Club charities.

To help Colin reach his charity target, a signed Ospreys rugby shirt was donated by Veolia Transport Cymru, where Colin is coach.

Landlady Sue Copner, of the Three Horse Shoes pub in Dinas Powys, agreed to purchase the shirt and donate £500 towards the target for the cycle ride.

Colin is seen (above) presenting the signed Ospreys shirt to Sue.

Anyone who would like to help Colin reach his target, can donate in-line at [www.justgiving.com/colin-jones0](http://www.justgiving.com/colin-jones0)



The Ospreys shirt is handed over.

## PACT meetings in the Vale...

THE following PACT meetings are being held in the Vale next week:

LLANDOUGH PACT, Llandough Memorial Hall, April 19, at 7pm.

LLANDOW PACT, Ewenny Village Hall, Wednesday, April 21, at 7pm.

COLWINSTON Cuppa With A Copper, The Sycamore Tree Public House, April 24, at 1pm.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Clothes swap

LLANTWIT Transition are holding a clothes swap (bring to swap or buy) at the Old White Hart public house, Llantwit Major at 2pm on April 24.

### 3 Peaks Challenge

A 3 Peaks charity challenge starts at 4am on Saturday, June 12 from Pen y Pass, Snowdonia, then on to Cadair Idris (also in Snowdonia) and Pen y Fan in the Brecon Beacons.

Taking part are five employees of Sinclair Finance and Leasing.

Proceeds from the challenge are in aid of the Ty Hafan hospice at Sully.

## 'Walk on Wild Side' of the Vale

A 'WALK on the Wild Side' is a family walk with a difference, full of nature activities, for grown-ups and kids to discover and explore the secret trails of Porthkerry Country Park.

It takes place on May 16 and is part of the Vale of Glamorgan Walking Festival.

Gareth Simpson of Valeways, said: "It is a

walk of two miles, along footpaths and woodland trails. Wellies will be necessary as some of the trails are likely to be muddy."

Booking essential.

Visit [www.valeofglamorganwalkingfestival.org.uk](http://www.valeofglamorganwalkingfestival.org.uk) for the full programme and online booking.

Phone bookings and enquiries can be made by calling Valeways on 01446 749000 (Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm).

## Karen's painting wins the prize!

PICTURED is Karen Briscombe, who won the Sully Painting Group's annual modern art competition.

The wide variety of exhibits in the competition, will all be on show at the Sully painting exhibition, together with many other paintings in Jubilee Hall, Sully, on June 25-26.



KAREN BRISCOMBE.

## THE ORIGINAL PSYCHIC WORLD EVENTS PSYCHIC FAYRE

Tarot, Psychic & Clairvoyant Readings, Gifts, Talks, etc

Thursday 22nd April

The Ship Hotel

Harbour Rd, Barry, CF62 5SB

11am - 5pm & 6pm - 10pm

For Information Tel: 07957 627292 Admission £2

## HORSE RACING

### POINT-TO-POINT

Saturday, 24th April

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For further information please contact

Mr Phil Williams

01656 890 660  
0779 915 5463



## Charity curry and quiz night

THE Penarth Ladies Circle is holding a Curry and Quiz night on May 7 at 7.30pm in the Adventure Island play centre, Friars Road, Barry Island.

Tickets are £5, with all proceeds going to the Headway charity. There will be a bar and raffle on the night, and a prize for the quiz winner! Teams welcome.

For tickets, contact Jodie on 07966 172758 or email [jodie.evans@staubin-nurseries.co.uk](mailto:jodie.evans@staubin-nurseries.co.uk)

## Van man winner

THE winner of our recent 'Who drives what' competition was Lisa Elliott of Barry, who won £20.

Keep reading The GEM for more great competitions!

## Worcester trip for a good cause!

THE Llantwit Major Friends of Bridgend Samaritans have organised a fundraising trip to Worcester on Saturday, May 15.

Tickets are £15 each, and details are available from Julie Robinson on 01446 796471. Proceeds, as always, will go to Bridgend Samaritans.

## NEW SHADOWS CABARET BAR BARRY ISLAND OPENING NIGHT SATURDAY 17th APRIL

### Forthcoming Events

Saturday 17th April  
ABBA RIVAL - £14

Saturday 1st May  
SHENTON DIXON  
LEGENDS OF SOUL - £14

Saturday 15th May  
OASIS'N'T - £14

Saturday 29th May  
MONI TIVONI  
as LIONEL RITCHIE - £10

Saturday 12th June  
MULTI TRIBUTE DIVA SHOW - £10

Saturday 26th June  
ATOMIC JONES - £10

Saturday 10th July  
RAT IN THE KITCHEN - £14

Saturday 17th July  
CERI DUPREE - £10

Saturday 31st July  
IAN JONES as LEE EVANS - £10

Please note that all the above prices include Chicken and Chips or Vegetarian option.

Party Bookings welcome.  
Venue also available for private hire – ask at the bar for details.

For further details on the above call

01446 721888

or email [info@shadowscabaretbar.com](mailto:info@shadowscabaretbar.com)

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Three guitarists with an incredible stage presence.

Saturday 17th April  
Jason Williams - cracking voice,  
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Friday 23rd April  
James Alexander - great voice,  
cracking songlist (9pm)

Saturday 24th April  
Holly Wilson - Vocalist (9pm)  
plus bingo

Friday 30th April  
Oblivious  
Live & kicking rock covers (9pm)

Saturday 1st May  
Jamie K - Vocalist (9pm)  
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**WEDNESDAY**  
Penarth - 9.30am & 11.45am  
All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square  
Linda 01446 761150  
Llantwit Major - 4.45 & 6.45pm  
Old School, Wine Street  
Helen 01446 750738

**THURSDAY**  
Sully - 10.15am  
The Old School, South Road  
Niki 01446 740394  
Cowbridge - 10.00am  
The Duke of Wellington  
High Street  
Lina 01656 890708

**EVENING GROUPS**

**MONDAY**  
Barry - 4.30 & 6.30pm  
Brynston Hall, Junction of Court Road  
and Llanover Street  
Lorraine 01446 407002  
Penarth - 6.30pm  
Elfed Avenue Methodist Church  
Elfed Road  
Niki 01446 740394  
Rhoose - 6.30pm  
Celtic Way Community Centre  
Celtic Way  
Helen 01446 750738

**TUESDAY**  
Barry - 5.45pm  
Market Street Social Club  
Upstairs Function Room  
Joanne 01446 404897  
Barry - 4.30pm  
St. Davids Methodist Church Hall,  
Winston Road  
Annmarie 01446 736534

**WEDNESDAY**  
Barry - 4.45 & 6.45pm  
St. Francis  
Millennium Centre  
Park Road,  
Porth-y-Castell  
Annmarie 01446 736534  
Barry - 6.00pm  
Cadroxton Methodist Church  
Church Road  
Joanne 01446 404897  
Cowbridge - 6.00pm  
The Duke of Wellington, High Street  
Lina 01656 890708  
Penarth 5.00 & 7.00pm  
All Saints Church Hall, Victoria  
Square Linda 01446 761150

**THURSDAY**  
Barry - 6.00pm  
Highlight Park Comm. Centre, Barry  
Annmarie 01446 736534  
Dinas Powys - 6.30pm  
The Cabin, by swimming pool  
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# SCHOOL'S BONNET PARADE DID NOT FORGET TRUE MEANING OF EASTER



A COLOURFUL Easter bonnet parade took place on the last day of term at All Saints Church in Wales Primary School.

To add to the excitement, headteacher Richard Ware dressed as the Easter Bunny to present prizes for the Breakfast Club decorated egg competition and year-4 teacher, James Ball, dressed as a chicken!

There were prizes for the most original Easter bonnet entries in each year group, but no-one was left out as the real Easter Bunny left cream eggs for everyone at the end of the day.

On a previous day, the children had taken part in an Easter Eucharist service taken by Canon Adrian Berry and led by the year-6 pupils, who gave a moving account of the true meaning of Easter and a celebration of new life.

INFANT WINNERS.



YEARS 3 AND 4 WINNERS.



NURSERY CLASS.



YEARS 5 AND 6 WINNERS.



Breakfast Club winners.

## NEWS FROM BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

### Ceramics students learn at the potter's wheel...

LAST term, pupils studying GCSE ceramics at Barry Comprehensive School were invited to attend a 'Clay Day' at the University of Wales, Cardiff (UWIC).

The event was arranged to promote ceramic courses taught by UWIC, as many universities across the UK have decided to stop teaching the subject. UWIC is now the largest ceramic course provider in Europe, and has fantastic facilities and lecturers providing the best education in this field.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day, which involved a variety of events from throwing clay pots to Raku glaze firings. It gave pupils an opportunity to see the learning pathway between studying ceramics at school and then at University.

Lecturers showed how



Barry Comprehensive potters hard at work at UWIC's 'Clay Day'.

the subject can lead to many career options, which inspired pupils to think about their future.

The university staff were extremely pleased with the boys' work, Matt Thompson, one of the technical demonstrators, said: "Your pupils have produced the best ceramic work today... we are really impressed with how quickly they have learnt clay making skills."

Comprehensive School took part in a Safer Cycling Course run by the Vale Council road safety officer, Sian Akers.

All the boys completed the National Standards Level 1 and Level 2 course, which involved them being taught a number of manoeuvres on the public highway near the school. The course is designed to develop road sense and an awareness of traffic dangers.

Nick Canham from Cycle Training Wales, who was the course instructor, was impressed with the boys' attitude and cycling skills, saying that many of them were ready for the Level 3 course, which is aimed at adults!

### Pupils learn about cycling safety

OVER a two-week period in March, 22 pupils from Barry

### Barry pupils showcase their musical talents



Tom Kinch, Kelly Virgill and Adam Case.

THE talented pupils of Barry Comprehensive School entertained a packed school hall recently.

A school spokesman said: "Stage and Screen Two was a compilation of all the songs you can't seem to get out of your head - Sweeney Todd, Chicago, Oliver, Miss Saigon, Phantom of the Opera, West Side Story, were a few of the musicals represented and Enchanted, Tarzan, Jungle Book, Working Girl were some of the chosen films.

"Every performer was outstanding, from year-7 to year-13 and they merged singing, dance and drama effortlessly in each musical number. "An added bonus this year was a percussion group, playing Adagio

for Strings. This wonderful musical evening was certainly value for money and the quality of singing and choreography was, as ever, first class and totally professional.

Music and drama continue to be an important part of the school calendar.

Just when you think Barry Comprehensive pupils can't get any better, another show begins and before you know it, sets are built, tickets are sold and another packed hall sits eagerly, waiting for the curtains to open and the orchestra to play their intro."

The spokesman added: "The summer production this year is Jesus Christ Superstar. Can we beat Les Miserables from 2009? "Yes we can!"

### 'Sully seven' represent Wales bowls



ABOVE:

Sully lady bowlers made up a sizeable portion of the Welsh team which travelled to Scotland to play the annual Short Green Bowls International Match. The outcome was an overall win for Scotland but Wales hope to regain the trophy next year when the teams meet here at the Sully Indoor Arena.

FRONT ROW (left to right): Paula Currie, Joan Jones, Cath Bentley, Marguerite 'Fitz' Fitzgerald.

BACK ROW (left to right): Val Weare, Adrienne Jones, Anne Rees.

### Young tennis ace wins final

ALEXANDER HAMER from Barry scooped the top spot at the Abergavenny Junior Open Tennis Championships held over Easter.

Attracting entries from Haverfordwest to London, the tournament

contained some of the best young tennis players in the region.

Alex competed in the nine and under tournament mixed singles event and only dropped one set as he stormed through the tournament, defeating Newport's Alex Makin in the final.



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**NEW PRICE** £104,950



**Riverside Place, Barry**  
Mid Terrace with living room/diner, modern kitchen, bathroom/wc and 3 bedrooms. UPVC DG, GCH and enclosed rear garden. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

**NEW** £109,950



**Ty Cwmpas, Barry**  
Ground floor apartment with lounge, kitchen, bathroom, en-suite and 2 bedrooms. Service Charge paid for 1st year/2 parking spaces. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

**NEW** £119,950



**Milward Road, Barry**  
Immaculate End Terrace with lounge/diner, kitchen, conservatory large 1st floor bathroom and 3 bedrooms. Gas CH, UPVC DG, Rear Garden. No Chain. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

**NEW** £126,950



**Castelnd Street, Barry**  
Traditional Mid Terrace with lounge/diner, kitchen/family room and 3 bedrooms. First floor bathroom suite, Gas CH, UPVC DG, Forecourt, Garden. No Chain. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

## LETTINGS

### BARRY

**YMCA Woodlands Road - £450 pcm**  
Ground floor 2 bed apartment  
**Treharne Road - £525 pcm**  
2 bed mid-link house - furnished

### RHOOSE

**Station Road - £395 pcm**  
2 bed ground floor flat  
**Havant Close - £450 pcm**  
Refurbished 2 bed first floor apartment  
**Fontgary Road - £475 pcm**  
Two bed first floor apartment with garden

**The Wheate Close - £500 pcm**  
Unfurnished 2 bed link house

**Fonnon Park Road - £525 pcm**  
Refurbished to high standard two bed house

**Picton Road - £550 pcm**  
Unfurnished 2 bed semi with garage

**Castle Road - £650 pcm**  
3 bed family home with parking

**Porfa Ballias - £1250 pcm**  
Executive 6 bed house

**Rhoda'R Mor - £1450 pcm**  
Executive 5 bed house with sea views

### LLANTWIT MAJOR

**Llys Dwywnen - £500 pcm**  
Unfurnished 2 bed house  
**Redwood Close Boverton - £500 pcm**  
2 bed first floor flat

### ST ATHAN

**Scott Close - £475 pcm**  
3 bed link house  
**Pinewood Square - £475 pcm**  
Unfurnished 2 bed house  
**Wren Road - £475 pcm**  
Unfurnished 2 bed house  
**Shackleton Close - £550 pcm**  
3 bed link house  
**Burley Place - £475 to £525 pcm**  
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**NEW PRICE** £134,950



**Wyndham Street, Barry**  
Mid positioned terrace with 3 receptions, 3 bedrooms, refitted kitchen and large modern bathroom. Gas CH, UPVC DG, Forecourt and Courtyard. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

**NEW PRICE** £139,950



**Court Road, Barry**  
Bay fronted End Terrace with 3 receptions, 3 bedrooms, stunning refitted kitchen/diner and 1st floor bathroom. UPVC DG, Gas CH (Comb). No Chain. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

**NEW** £149,950



**Enfield Drive, Barry**  
Semi Detached Bungalow with 2 receptions, 2 bedrooms, fitted kitchen, Gas CH, UPVC DG, 4 Car drive and garage. Enclosed rear garden. No Chain. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

**WEST END** £189,950



**Miskin Street, Barry**  
Super house with sea views, 2 receptions, 4 bedrooms, stunning 2nd kitchen/diner and 1st floor bathroom. Gas CH, Hardwood Dg, forecourt and rear garden. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

**NEW** £195,000



**Oakfield Road, Barry**  
Superb semi with 3 receptions, 3 bedrooms and large family kitchen, stunning bathroom. Gas CH, UPVC DG, Garage, Drive and family gardens. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

**NEW** £199,950



**Clos Mancheldowne, Barry**  
Townhouse with super views, living room, kitchen/diner and 3 bedrooms. 2 en-suites, shower room, gas CH, UPVC DG, garage, parking and gardens. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

**NEW** £220,000



**Churchfields, Barry**  
Lovely extend detached house with 2 receptions, 5 bedrooms, large kitchen/diner, refitted en-suite and bathroom. Gas CH, UPVC DG, garage and 4 car drive, gardens. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

**NEW PRICE** £84,950



**Romilly Road, Rhooose**  
2 bed 1st floor flat, living room, separate kitchen/breakfast room, modern double shower room, upvc dg, electric heating, communal gardens & parking. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW PRICE** £123,995



**Beaufort Way, Rhooose**  
2 bed semi, lounge/diner, kitchen/breakfast room, stunning bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg. No Chain, gardens, driveway & garage. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £182,950



**The Wheate Close, Rhooose**  
3 bed superb detached, 2 receptions, stunning kitchen/diner, refitted bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, No Chain, 2 car drive & 40' garden. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW PRICE** £189,995



**Celtic Way, Rhooose**  
3 bed super extended semi, 3 receptions, fabulous kitchen/diner, ground floor shower room, 1st floor bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, store garage, gardens & 2 car drive. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £214,950



**Porthkerry Road, Rhooose**  
4/5 double bedroom semi with panoramic sea views, 2/3 receptions, modern kitchen, lobby, wet room, 1st floor bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, outhouses, large gardens & good parking. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £245,000



**Cilgant Y Meillion, Rhooose Point**  
4 bed stunning & improved detached, 4 receptions incl. conservatory, 2 en-suites, kitchen, utility, bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, No Chain, 3 car drive & private rear gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £259,950



**Bryn Y Gloyn, Rhooose Point**  
4 bed detached with open views over nature reserve, 2 receptions, fully fitted kitchen/diner, bathroom, en-suite, gas ch, upvc dg, No Chain, gardens, drive & garage. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £279,950



**Llwyn Y Gog, Rhooose Point**  
4 bed semi with panoramic channel views, 2 receptions, entertaining kitchen/diner, 2 en-suites, bathroom, cloak, gas ch, upvc dg, ample parking, garage & generous rear garden. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £295,000



**Rhoose Road, Rhooose**  
5 bed unique detached property, 4 receptions, extensive accommodation, 2 en-suites, luxury bathroom, upvc dg, gas ch, substantial parking & gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £325,000



**Heol Y Dryw, Rhooose Point**  
5 bed extensive detached, 4 receptions, large kitchen, utility, 2 en-suites, bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, superb sea views, tandem garage, drive & gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

**NEW** £399,000



**Old Chapel House, Penmark**  
5 bed period detached property, 2 receptions, improved kitchen, rural views, cloak, bathroom, en-suite, oil ch, upvc dg, garage, parking & family gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

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**Newydd Housing Association**

121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

Vale of Glamorgan Council    Vale of Glamorgan Housing Association    Newydd Housing Association  
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**AMROTH COURT, BARRY**

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Suitable for a family  
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• Central heating  
• Double-glazing  
• Gardens

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including water charges

**BOROUGH AVENUE, BARRY**

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• Gardens

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**BRECON COURT, BARRY (2)**

H4U Reference 202397  
Suitable for a single person over 60 - no pets  
• 2 x studio apartments  
• First floor (ramp access)  
• Central heating  
• Double glazing  
• Alarm & warden

Rent £76.33 per week inc  
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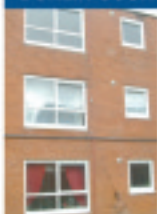
H4U Reference 1027710  
Suitable for applicants in need of adaptations  
• Two-bedroom house  
• Stairlift/access shower  
• Gas central heating  
• Double-glazing  
• Rear garden & driveway

Rent £83.66 per week  
including service charge

**COPPERFIELD COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 2032059  
Suit. for a single person over 55 in need of adaption - no pets  
• One bedroom flat  
• Ground floor from rear first floor from car park  
• Gas central heating  
• Double glazing/parking

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including service charge

**DUNLIN COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1040740  
Suitable for a single person or couple  
• Two-bedroom flat  
• Second floor  
• Gas central heating  
• Double glazing

Rent £72.37 per week  
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**DUNLIN COURT, BARRY**

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• Double glazing

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**FAIROAKS, DINAS POWYS**

H4U Reference 231716  
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• Central heating  
• Double glazing  
• Alarm and warden

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H4U Reference 235057  
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• Gardens

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**HADLEY HOUSE, PENARTH**

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• Central heating  
• Double glazing  
• Community alarm

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• Gardens

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including water charges

**LENNOX GREEN, BARRY**

H4U Reference 214871  
Suit. for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets  
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• Central heating  
• Double glazing  
• Community alarm

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**LONGMEADOW CT, COWBRIDGE**

H4U Reference 230203  
Suit. for a single person or couple over 60 - no pets  
• One-bedroom flat  
• Ground floor  
• Central heating  
• Double glazing  
• Alarm and warden

Rent £88.62 pw including  
alarm and service charges

**OSPREY COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1040762  
Suitable for a single person or couple  
• One-bedroom flat  
• First floor  
• Gas central heating  
• Double glazing

Rent £72.37 per week  
including service charge

**PLASSEY HOUSE, PENARTH**

H4U Reference 241331  
Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets  
• Studio apartment  
• First floor  
• Central heating  
• Double glazing  
• Community alarm

Rent £74.21 pw including  
alarm and service charges

**FEEDBACK**

Address	Bids	Band	Reg.
Annerin Road	121	Gold	03/09/08
Clos Uawhaden	117	Gold	09/02/10
Clos Yr Harbwr	151	Gold	15/01/10
Copperfield Court	20	Silver	08/02/10
Dylan Crescent	36	Gold	20/01/10
Elizabeth Avenue	46	Gold	25/02/10
Gwenog Court	10	Bronze	23/02/10
Harvey Street	79	Gold	27/07/06
Heritage Drive	142	Gold	22/01/10
Jenner Road	92	Gold	10/10/08
Magellan Close	123	Gold	11/03/09
Melion Close	61	Gold	06/02/10
Merganser Court	65	Gold	23/02/10
Pendine Close	34	Gold	29/10/09
Pontalun Close	23	Silver	24/07/08
Robins Lane	151	Gold	02/04/09
St Garmon Road	90	Gold	28/01/10
Wellwood Drive	62	Silver	08/01/09
Williams Crescent	61	Gold	15/02/10

**RAMSEY ROAD, BARRY**

H4U Reference 222062  
Suitable for a family  
• Three-bedroom house  
• Central heating  
• Double-glazing  
• Gardens

Rent £85.49 per week  
including water charges

**SEVERN AVENUE, BARRY (2)**

H4U Reference 222799  
Suit. for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets  
• 2 x one-bedroom flats  
• First floor  
• Central heating  
• Double glazing  
• Community alarm

Rent £78.14 pw including  
alarm and service charges

**TREHARNE ROAD, BARRY**

H4U Reference 226551  
Suit. for a single person, couple or small family - no pets  
• Two-bedroom flat  
• First floor  
• Central heating  
• Double-glazing

Rent £88.98 per week  
including service charges

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference. All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness. Newydd is a charitable housing association.

**TY CERRIG, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1040728  
Suitable for a single person over 55  
• One bedroom flat  
• Ground floor  
• Gas central heating  
• Double glazing/parking  
• Communal gardens

Rent £75.10 per week  
including service charge

**WINCHESTER CLOSE, BARRY**

H4U Reference 228569  
Suitable for a family  
• Three-bedroom house  
• Central heating  
• Double-glazing  
• Gardens

Rent £85.49 per week  
including water charges





# Easter celebrations at Oak Field Primary School had eggsacting task for the judges

PUPILS at Oak Field Primary School, Barry, had a wonderful last day of term by holding their annual Easter hat parade.

The standard of entries as usual was excellent, and judges found it very difficult to pick three winners from each year group who all received an Easter egg and certificate.

Well done to all the pupils and their parents for all their hard work.

SARAH DI TOMASO  
(Assistant headteacher)





## ROUND TWO OF WELSH MASTERS' EVENT

# Trophies for Cadoxton Tae Kwon Do pupils



Left to right: Back row – Ben Mort, Morganne Gomez Jones, Emily Stavert, Jon Hawkins. Middle row – Matthew Bennett, Charlotte Sullivan, Bradley Halford, Morgan Harry. Front row – Hayley Matthey, Lucy Newman, Ollie Tipples, Thomas Haysham and Morgan Stavert Hawkins. Missing from the picture is Liam Rees.

**CADOXTON** Schools of Tae Kwon Do continued their build up to the World Organisation of Martial Arts Athletes (WOMAA) world game by competing in the second of a series of six Welsh masters' tournaments.

This time, the host for the day was David Tolcher. Points were awarded to the first four places in each category, resulting in a grand

champion at the end of the series.

Once again, the students representing Cadoxton did their instructors and parents proud, bringing home 26 trophies between them.

Lucy Newman and Jon Hawkins got the club off to a good start, taking third places in the junior and senior pattern sections.

Successful in their respective height categories were: Matthew Bennett, Emily Stavert, Thomas Haysham, Morganne Gomez Jones

and Liam Rees – all took first in light continuous and second in point sparring.

Morgan Stavert Hawkins and Bradley Halford took first place in point and second in light continuous sparring.

Ollie Tipples and Morgan Harry were second in point and third in light continuous sparring. Ben Mort and Charlotte Sullivan took first in point sparring, with Hayley Matthey taking second in point sparring.

Lucy Newman, after coming third in the patterns, went on to take second in point and second in light continuous sparring. After a hard-fought men's light continuous section, Jon Hawkins came away with a third place to go with his third in the men's pattern section.

Places are now available for beginners of all ages, Mondays and Wednesdays from 6pm at the Victoria Park Community Centre. For further information, ring Ron Thomas on 01446 406372.

## At last, warm weather for Cottrell Park competitors

ON April 1, Cottrell Park ladies were lucky with the weather, which remained dry during their 12-hole Easter Texas scramble.

It was won by Tina Morgan, Sara Williams, Brenda Margetts and Norma Fryer with a net 45.6. In second place were Viv Fisher, Patricia Haines, Liz Overton and Andrea Caines (net 47.9) and in third were Elaine Mais, Marion Stephenson and Jenny McGlyne (net 49.1).

An Easter lunch was enjoyed by all following the competition, and the prizes were presented by Lorraine Pointon-Bell, the ladies' captain.

The ladies winter league and winter eclectic results were announced and the trophies presented to Tessa Matthews (winter league) and Jenny Knott (winter eclectic).

On Easter Monday, a mixed Texas scramble was played and this was won by the team of Jenny and Edward Knott, Sara Williams and Dil Alexander.



Easter Monday winners: Jenny and Edward Knott, Sara Williams and Dil Alexander.



CB Tessa Matthews, Winter League trophy.



Jenny Knott, Winter Eclectic trophy.

## Young Dylan leads out the Cardiff Blues



ABOVE: Dylan with Blues captain Paul Tito.

**ONE** young rugby fan from Llantwit Major had a big thrill recently when he was the official mascot at a Cardiff Blues game.

Dylan Thomas (aged five) was mascot at the Cardiff Blues match on Mother's Day when Cardiff played Gloucester in the LV Cup semi-final.

Young Dylan led the team onto the pitch, shadowing the Blues captain, second row forward Paul Tito.

It was a shock to Dylan, who had insisted before the match that nobody could be taller than his grand-dad!

Dylan had his face painted with the Blues logo, was given a Cardiff Blues shirt and taken into the dressing room.

He also went into the press conference room, sat on the chair and had a pretend press conference.

Many more photos were taken on that momentous day, and Dylan also had his photo in the programme, with a small write up about his hobbies and where he attends school.

His Nan, Elaine, told The GEM: "Dylan's dad and grand-dad, and other family members all went to the game, and we were supplied with complimentary tickets for the day."

"His favourite Blues player is Llantwit's Dafydd Hewitt."

The only thing that could not be arranged was a Blues win – and Gloucester did leave Dylan feeling "guttled", for a while.

His Nan said: "We, as a family, would like to thank all those in the Cardiff Blues who made Dylan's day very special, it was also a fantastic Mother's/Nana's day present, and one that we will never forget."



ABOVE: April 1 winners: Sara Williams, Brenda Margetts, Norma Fryer.

## Success for netball teams

**BARRY B** netball team, who have been playing in division six in the local Cardiff and Vale league, ended their season with another good win over M J Movers B by 26-6.

This season has been their best so far and they will finish third in the division, and have been a credit to Barry Netball Club.

They have not had a regular training session throughout the season and their ages range from 13-18.

Captained by Amber Pringle, the team has shown great maturity.

Thanks go to Alison and Julia, two mums who have helped keep score, and a special thank you to Sara Hardy, who has umpired each week, which is a real commitment.

The Barry A team also finished third in Division five, and have had a great season, captained by Rachel Hewitt.

The club is now fielding six teams – four in junior leagues and two in the adult league.

This is down to the dedication of the coaches and the commitment from the players and their parents.

The teams will now go on to compete in the summer leagues and netball adult sessions will be arranged on a Sunday evening from the end of April.

Anyone wishing to come along and join in will be more than welcome.

For more information for junior or adult sections ages 8 years + please contact Sara Hardy on 01446 733556 or me on 01446 749965.

Linda Rees

## Barry RFC girls aim to be rugby trail-blazers in Wales!



LEFT: Barry Rugby Club's under-12 girls' team recently played their first-ever fixture against Drybrook in the Forest of Dean.

**BARRY RFC** has formed a girls' team at under-12s level – the first in Wales!

The team recently returned from their first-ever fixture against a team based in the Forest of Dean. The Barry girls were narrowly defeated by Drybrook, but travelled home from across the border full of excitement and a hunger for more.

Coach Lisa Jordan

said: "Many of the girls didn't have much knowledge of rugby to begin with so we started the season with classroom sessions to teach them the rules."

"They've worked really hard and to see them play their first match was amazing. They actually took the lead by scoring a try in the first 10 seconds, which was unbelievable! Although we ended up losing, we gave them a really good run for their

money and we are looking forward to a return fixture."

There will be many more fixtures for the girls to enjoy next season as teams across Wales are set to spring into action.

However, Barry RFC will always be the first, and the Vale Council rugby development officer Matt Silva said: "I was asked last year if there were any projects that I would like to get under way after new funding became available from the Sports Council for Wales."

"It came at a time when local residents had asked if we could start a girls' rugby team in the Vale. The project took off and it has been steadily growing for the

past 12 months."

Matt added: "This is a great start for the girls and it will be exciting for them to test themselves in more matches next season. Some of the girls will move up next year to form an under-15s squad, while new players are invited to come along and train with both age groups."

Any girls aged from 10 up to 15 are welcome to train with the club on Sunday mornings (10.15am-12noon) on Barry Island beach, and Tuesday evenings (7pm-8pm) at the rugby club. Both training sessions will continue through the summer. To find out more, telephone Lisa Jordan on 07854 146075.

### CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

The GEM welcomes your match reports, and other club items of interest.

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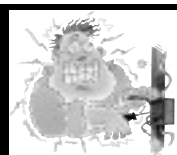
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**ABIGAIL BAKER**  
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Mum, Dad, Joe and all the family.  
xxx

**LUCY MILLS**  
**APRIL 19th**  
**Congratulations**  
**on becoming**  
**a teenager**  
**HAVE A LOVELY DAY**  
from Mum, Charlotte  
and all the family  
xxx

**Theo Morgan**  
**Our Special Little Man**  
**Happy 1st Birthday**  
**Darling**  
on 15th April, 2010  
Love you always. Hugs and Kisses  
Mummy & Daddy  
and all the family  
xxx

**Happy 18th Birthday**  
**KELLY JAMES**  
on 17th April, 2010  
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Sue, Paul, Nicole & Cameron,  
Russell, Lloyd & Ben,  
David, Dawn, Natalia & Bradley  
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## Anniversaries

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**HAPPY 50th**  
**GOLDEN**  
**WEDDING**  
**ANNIVERSARY**  
16th April 2010  
**Eva and John**  
**MacDONALD**  
All our love, Jeanette,  
Gail, Jonny and Jane  
and all the  
grandchildren  
xxxxx  
**50th**

## Family Notices

**EVANS**  
**Sarah Marguerite**  
Died peacefully at Llandough Hospital on  
April 3, Sallie of St Osyth Court, Barry.  
Dearly beloved wife of the late Bryn Hamer Evans,  
joyful mother of Nerys and Gareth, mother-in-law  
of Ted Egan and Margaret Evans, loving grandmother  
of David and Michael.  
Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynceydd Funeral  
Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the private funeral  
on Friday April 16. A memorial service in celebration of  
Sallie's life with be held at the Tabernacle Chapel,  
Holton Road, Barry, on Sunday, April 18 at 11.00am.  
No flowers by request, donations to the NSPCC.

**NEWBERY, Lewis**  
of Llantwit Major died peacefully on the  
8th April 2010 at the Princess of Wales  
Hospital, the dearly loved husband of Terry  
and father to Simon and Debbie.  
Funeral service in Coychurch Crematorium  
on Wednesday 21st April at 2.45pm.  
Family flowers only, but donations may be  
made to East Abertawe Bro Mor University  
NHS Trust (Princess of Wales Hospital)  
c/o the Funeral Directors W.A. Brown & Son,  
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**WILLIAMS**  
On 5 April, suddenly but peacefully at home in  
Worthing, Connie, aged 87, late of Aberthyn.  
Beloved wife of the late John, loving mother of  
Jonny and the late Suzanne, cherished nan of  
Hannah, Nathan and great-grandson Jensen, and  
dearly loved sister of Maureen.  
Funeral at Worthing Crematorium on 23 April at  
1.40pm. Family flowers only but donations at  
Connie's request please to The Meningitis Trust,  
Sophia House, 28 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF11 9LJ  
or online at www.meningitis-trust.org

**THOMAS, James**  
It is with sadness we announce the passing of  
James Thomas of Llantwit Major on 9th April, 2010.  
Beloved son of Ken and Maureen Thomas, brother  
of Alexandra (Peter) and Allan (Beverley);  
and father to Alice and Gemma.  
Funeral service in St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major  
on Thursday, 22nd April, 2010 at 10am.  
Flowers may be sent to W.A. Brown & Son,  
College Street, Llantwit Major.

## Public Notice

**MR PETER  
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# CARDIFF & THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS AA WELSH SPORTSHALL FINALS

## Unlucky George misses out on Welsh record



Members of the Cardiff & the Vale Schools team, including Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cowbridge) enjoyed taking part in the Welsh Sportshall finals.

**THERE** were mixed fortunes for the nine Vale pupils who competed for the Cardiff & the Vale Schools team at the recent Aviva Welsh Sportshall Finals at Cwmbran Stadium.

The competition is a team event for the eight schools' districts in Wales, with two age groups - under-13 (years 7 and 8) and under-15 (years 9 and 10).

At under-13, athletes are restricted to a maximum of two individual events - one track and one field - and the team size is limited to a maximum of 12.

At under-15, there is an all-rounder competition with each athlete competing in one of two events in three groups. For boys, the groupings are two laps or four laps, standing long jump or standing triple jump, and shot or speed bounce, while in the girls' competition, groupings are the same, with the one change being the vertical jump replacing the standing triple jump.

Athletes gain points based on their ranking in each event.

The winning team in each section qualifies to represent Wales at the UK Sportshall Finals at the National Exhibition Centre near Birmingham.

For Welsh Schools' combined events international Matthew Roan, there was disappointment. A groin injury incurred in the under-15 2 laps time-trials resulted in the year-10 St Cyres pupil being advised by his team manager to withdraw rather than risk possible further damage.

Two selection gambles in the under-13 boys' team had vastly different outcomes. Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) had competed in the 2 laps event at the Cardiff & the Vale Schools' competition, but he was selected for the 4 laps at these Welsh finals, and it paid off as the year-7 pupil beat the best of year-8 in both heat and final to claim the title.

For his Cowbridge team-mate, George Griffiths, there was disappointment. At the Cardiff & the Vale Schools competition, the talented year-8 sprinter and long jumper had won three events - 2 laps, standing long jump and high jump.

With pupils restricted to only two events at

these finals, the selectors opted to include him in the 2 laps and high jump competitions. He competed well in both events, but had to settle for silver medals.

To add to the disappointment, he was allowed to compete as a non-scoring athlete in the standing long jump, and produced a best leap of 2.62 metres, a distance which would have been good enough to win and been a new Welsh age group best.

The Cowbridge duo gained a further medal, a bronze, in the 4 x 2 laps relay.

There was a second gold medal for Cowbridge in the under-13 girls standing long jump. At the Cardiff & the Vale Schools championships, Izzy Eddy-Williams had finished fourth in the standing long jump with a best distance of two metres but, at Cwmbran, she went way beyond that mark, leaping to 2.27 metres to win by two centimetres from her team-mate Claire Taylor (Radyr).

In the under-15 girls section, Cowbridge provided four of the seven girl team. Year-10 Romy Killick, the Cardiff & the Vale Schools all rounder champion, was the top placer, finishing 12th out of the 43 scoring athletes.

Results of Vale pupils:  
**Under-15 boys** - Years 9 and 10: Team: - 4th (506); Matthew Roan (St Cyres) (2 Laps - 24.8; Shot - 9.18m).  
**Under-13 boys** - Years 7 and 8: Team: - 5th (544); George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 60 (2 Laps - 2nd - 24.6 (30); High Jump - 2nd - 1.50m (30); no scoring Standing Long Jump - 2.62m; Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) 54 (4 Laps - 1st - 53.5 (32); High Jump - 6th - 1.35m (22); 4 x 2 Laps relay - 3rd - 1:43.9 (60); 4 x 1 Lap relay - 6th - 54.8 (30); Obstacle relay - 5th - 1:32.0 (40); 8 Lap Paarlauf - 4th - 1:53.3 (50).

**Under-15 girls** - Team: - 4th (490); 12th Romy Killick (Cowbridge) 107 (2 Laps - 26.5 (33); Speed Bounce - 72 (34); Standing Long Jump - 2.17m (40); 14th Caitlin Allin (Cowbridge) 100 (2 Laps - 26.5 (33); Speed Bounce - 70 (26); Vertical Jump - 51 (41); 28th Katie Wynne

(Cowbridge) 79 [4 Laps - 63.0 (16); Shot - 6.79m (30); Vertical Jump - 48 (33); 41st Miriam Bennett (Cowbridge) 44 (4 Laps - 62.2 (18); Shot - 5.40m (16); Standing Long Jump - 1.73m (10); 4 x 2 Laps relay - 4th - 1:46.2 (50); 8 Lap Paarlauf - 5th - 1:59.7 (40).

**Under-13 girls** - Team: - 3rd (537); Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cowbridge) 54 (4 Laps - 6th - 59.0 (22); Standing Long Jump - 1st - 2.27m (32); Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) 14 (Standing Triple Jump - 10th - 5.72m (14); 4 x 2 Laps relay - 2nd - 1:48.2 (70); 4 x 1 Lap relay - 2nd - 55.0 (70); Obstacle relay - 8th - 1:46.6 (10); 8 Lap Paarlauf - 4th - 1:59.5 (50).

The UK Sportshall finals are being held at the National Exhibition Centre, near Birmingham, on Sunday, April 18. As a result of his performance at Cwmbran, George Griffiths (Cowbridge) has been invited to compete as a wild card entry in the under-13 standing long jump competition.

**Cross country**  
**THREE** Vale pupils recently represented Welsh Schools at cross-country internationals at Truro and Mansfield.

At Truro, English Schools, on rota, hosted the Aviva SIAB international for top pupils at under-17 (years 10 and 11) and under-15 (years 8 and 9), with the opposition coming from Scotland, Wales and a team from All-Ireland.

Year-11 Bethan Daw has good reason to feel well pleased with her run. The St Cyres pupil just squeezed into the Welsh Schools team, finishing seventh at the Aviva Welsh Schools championships in Brecon, but, in the under-17 race at Truro, she was the fourth Welsh girl to finish, claiming 21st place.

The Welsh team claimed bronze medals behind English and All-Ireland.

Llantwit pupil Megan Osborne will not be satisfied with her performance. At Brecon, the year-9 was the silver medalist in the under-15 race but, in Cornwall, she was placed 26th, though



Year-7 Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) on his way to victory in the under-13 4 laps event.

she too was the fourth Welsh scorer.

Stanwell sixth former Owen Haswell has endured an injury-ridden last 12 months. He has done remarkably well to return to action over the country, and to gain selection for the Welsh Schools under-20 team against Welsh Athletics at the Inter Association match within the Aviva Home Countries international, organised by English Athletics at Mansfield in Nottinghamshire.

Sadly, this was one race too far for Haswell and although he started, on the advice of his team manager, he withdrew from the race before the finish.

Words **PETER MORRIS**  
Pictures **IAN DIXON**

## Sully Sports junior teams' French tour is a sparkling success

**Sully Sports RFC** has a 22 year twinning history with **Fecamp Rugby Club, Normandy**.

This season, three groups from Fecamp RC made the trip to Barry for the Wales v France Six Nations game, and last weekend the Sully Sports RFC under-11s and under-12s travelled to Fecamp to continue this twinning relationship, taking an early part in Fecamp RC's 40th anniversary celebrations.

A club delegation will travel to Fecamp at the end of this month to join in the formal celebrations.

The youngsters, accompanied by their coaches and a band of parents, had an early 3am departure from the Sully Clubhouse on Friday, but they were full of energy and spirit.

Arriving in Fecamp early Friday afternoon, the party strolled past the harbour down to the beach for a game of football.

In the evening, they were given a reception by the Mayor of Fecamp and the President of Fecamp RC, returning to their accommodation well fed and watered.

The next morning, the boys spent a couple of hours in the town centre, its streets full of the Saturday market stalls.

Fecamp RC provided a wonderful lunch - SSRFC wondered as to whether this was the usual good hospitality or intended to gain an advantage by feeding the boys up prior to playing the arranged rugby games!

Disappointingly, when the under-11s and under-12s got to the stadium, the players waiting were unmatched in

age groups, resulting in an unexpected format of games.

The under-11s played a five-minute each way game, in a four-a-side tag rugby format on a very small pitch.

Although the Sully Sports players ranged from nine to 11, the Fecamp group were mainly eight and nine year olds, so even playing a whole different way, Sully Sports were triumphant, but the smaller, younger Fecamp team were to be commended for the enthusiasm and spirit.

The boot was on the other foot with the under-12s, as they played a team that was older, bigger and quicker, as well as playing a slightly format of laws.

Despite this, in a fast open game, the Sports won the battle of possession and territory, only to be outdone by tries created from turnovers and different laws on kicking.

The Sports never gave up, showing great courage and spirit against their physically larger opponents.

Following after-match refreshments and presentations, the party were taken in the evening to a National Basketball League game between Fecamp US and ASA Sceaux, which was an exciting and different experience for the Sports.

On Sunday morning, the Sports were treated to even more excitement when they visited the local adventure park.

With appetites now ravenous, it was off to the Fecamp RC Clubhouse for a magnificent array of food, including a BBQ - cooked by visiting guest chef Alistair Davies - and fond farewells.

On the way back to the homework ferry, the party enjoyed a couple of hours of 10-pin bowling and pool, with the boys still full of energy, spirit and competitiveness.

The ferry home proved a lot different to the one outward, as the weather in the channel was on the choppy side, with the crew soon issuing plenty of sick bags, and many of the party finding that they were not sea dogs after all.

Sully Sports RFC wish to record the pride in their under-11s and under-12s, who were true tourists and great ambassadors for the club, Welsh rugby and the Vale.

Coaches Alistair Davies, John Stafford and Ray Gullivan were so proud of their teams, and deserved praise and thanks for all their hard work with the boys, and in putting together this

successful tour.

All the parents are also thanked for their support for the sons and the club, and those who did not go on the tour will soon learn from those who did, what a great time and experience missed by not going on the trip.

Finally, everyone wishes to re-iterate its heartfelt thanks to Fecamp Rugby Club for the welcome, hospitality and hard work put in to ensure such a memorable tour - special thanks go to Christine, Christian, Julien, club president Francois and his good wife, and the many other club members involved.

Old friendships were renewed and new ones were started.

The junior section's annual presentation evening will take place at the Sully Clubhouse on May 9, starting at 5pm.

## Cowbridge RFC under-12s are tested by 'Nant'

**COWBRIDGE** under-12s entertained Nantyffyllon RFC under-12s for the first time in what proved to be a very testing match.

The Nanty pack was the largest that the Cowbridge boys had played against this season, and the forwards were complemented by a skilful backs section.

The game got off to a good start with a try within five minutes from Rian Thomas, playing in a new role as left wing, and the conversion by Jonny Harvey was successful.

Nanty came straight back into the game with an interception try, the conversion was missed to give Cowbridge a narrow 7-5 lead, but the Nanty pack were keeping the Cowbridge eight pinned down and they deservedly scored another try to take the lead.

However, Cowbridge's new flyer Thomas hit back to provide a 12-10 half-time lead to Cowbridge.

The second half saw strong runs by Frazz McGhan, Josh Brace and Ben Jones, which kept Cowbridge on the front foot and 10 minutes into the second half, Thomas blasted through the Nanty covering tackles to add to the scoring.

Cowbridge now had the upper hand but the boys still had to make tackles, with Luke John, Matt Harper, Ashford Thomas and Hywel Williams putting in some great hits.

With 10 minutes left,

Ben Jones picked up the ball on the halfway line and dodged at least five tackles to run in the ball to make it 22-10.

Miles Davies then scored under the posts from halfway.

The final score was 27-10 and was a great preparation for next week's Blues Cup semi-final against Penarth.

A big thank you to Nantyffyllon and we hope to arrange regular seasonal fixtures with them in the future.

Full squad: Cai Thomas Jenkins, Owain Thomas Jenkins, Josh Brace, George Thomas, Jac Davies, Tom

Whitehouse, Luke John, Tom Evans, Ben Jones, Frazz McGhan, Rob David, Hywel Williams, Ashford Thomas, Jonny Harvey, Gabriel Newham, Rian Thomas, Harvey Stockford, Matt Harper and Miles Davies.

## Under-9s and under-8s

The under-8s and under-9s competed in their district tournaments.

Both sides put up creditable performances and progressed to the semi-final stages of the tournament.

The under-8s played some great rugby throughout the day but lost out by the odd score in a seven-try thriller in the semi-final.

The under-9s also played some superb rugby, before eventually losing out to tournament hosts Llanishen in their semi-final.

ML

## What's on and where, around and about?

**China hunt**  
**THE** All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry, will hold a fundraising coffee morning in the church hall in aid of much-needed funds for new china and glassware, on Saturday, April 17, starting at 10am-12noon. Entrance 50p.

Stalls include romance, fiction, thrillers and books for children; guess the weight of the cake; tombola and raffle.

**Friends and Neighbours**  
**ST PATRICK'S** Day was celebrated recently at the Senior Health Shop in Barry by Friends and Neighbours' senior citizen group, with a lunch which consisted of leek

and potato soup, bread roll and cheese, with dessert to follow.

Friends and Neighbours welcome new members.

The next meeting will be held on April 21 at 2pm at the Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry. The cost is 50p, to include tea/coffee and cake. We have a varied programme for the year.

For further information, telephone Gay Fiffeld (secretary) on 01446 400044, or just go along!

**Art demo**  
**COWBRIDGE** Art Society meets on Thursday, April 22, at 7pm in Old Hall, High

Street, when Ronald Swanwick will demonstrate in acrylics and oils.

Non-members are welcome to attend.

**Red Cross sale**  
**THE** Cowbridge Red Cross is holding another mini fabric sale on Friday, April 23, at the Broadshoard Centre, 10.30am-12.30pm - coffee and tea available.

Open the day before (same time) for donations to the sale of fabric and related items; or telephone 01446 773987 for assistance. Admission is free.

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.4 LT 5dr: Urban - 35.8 (7.9), Extra-urban - 60.1 (4.7), Combined - 47.9 (5.9). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 140g/km. Captiva 2.0 VCDi LT 7-seat: Urban - 31.7 (8.9), Extra-urban - 42.8 (6.6), Combined - 38.2 (7.4). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 197g/km. Cruze 1.6 LS 4dr: Urban - 31.4 (9.0), Extra-urban - 51.4 (5.5), Combined - 41.5 (6.8). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 159g/km. Chevrolet Spark range emissions: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 119 g/km.







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08 08 FORD KA 1.3 Zetec Climate 3-Dr. In white, 9,000 miles . . . . . £6,475  
07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr. Met black, cd, a/c, pas, 12k miles . . . . . £6,975  
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Dynamique 3-dr hatch. Silver met, 24k miles, a/c, rcl, ew, pas, alloys . . . . . £6,975

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05 05 HYUNDAI Sonata 2.4 Auto Saloon, 4-dr, Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, ew, cd, cruise, full leather . . . . . £4,975  
05 05 FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi Zetec 3-Dr. Met blue, 76k miles, fully loaded . . . . . £4,975  
04 54 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 T3 Auto Met blue, 48k . . . . . £6,475  
06 56 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi TURBO DIESEL. Met red, 36k miles, pas, a/c . . . . . £6,975  
07 07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5dr. Met blue, e windows, rcl, 5k miles . . . . . £6,975  
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06 06 FORD Focus 1.6LX 5-dr, AUTO. In blue, petrol, 22,500 miles, a/c, c/d player, front e/c window, rcl . . . . . £7,995

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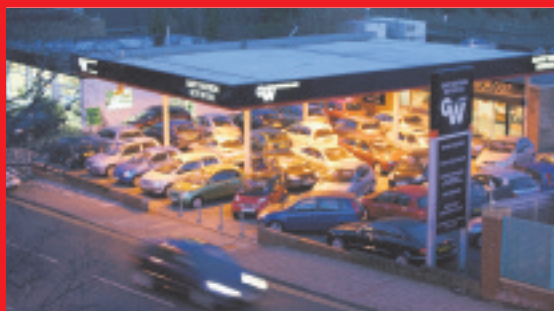


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# GEM sport

## Battling Barry RFC get 'show back on the road'

**BARRY travelled to Senghenydd eight days ago to fulfil a postponed fixture against a team only one place behind them at the head of the division.**

With the Barry side high on confidence and buoyed by a successful cup run, it was going to be a close-run thing and so it proved.

Barry were soon behind to a penalty goal and following good driving play by their forwards, the home side extended their lead with a well-taken converted try. The referee did the visitors no favours with the penalty count standing five to nil against them after only 20 minutes.

Barry gradually obtained parity up front without ever looking convincing in the set

scrums. The visitors were rewarded for these efforts with two well-taken penalties by Lee, leaving the score 6-10 at half-time.

While the scoreline was encouraging, the injuries to Williams and H Jones may prove to be more costly with the fixtures piling up as the season draws to a close.

Barry started the second half in attack mode with some strong running in the backs, creating the chance for Lee to close the gap to a single point. This player was also using his strong left foot to gain large chunks of territory.

After 20 minutes, Barry struck the front with another penalty but this was soon nullified when Evans at centre was harshly yellow-carded for an illegal tackle.

Try as they might, the visitors could not break

**SENGHENYDD 13  
BARRY 12**

down a dogged home defence and the game meandered to a disappointing loss of an unbeaten record against Senghenydd.

The result may have been disappointing, but not one player could be criticised for lack of effort.

**ST ALBANS 10  
BARRY 67**

**ON a perfect day for running rugby, Barry visited Cardiff on Saturday to play against another side, which were forced to opt for uncontested scrums.**

The consolation is that they are getting used to playing this version of the game!

Barry were soon on

the attack and after only two minutes, Walsh crossed for a try, but it was the last of the action for him as he injured himself in the process and was substituted.

Within the first 20 minutes, the referee had awarded the home side nine penalties to none for the visitors. The official also penalised one St Albans player four times for high tackling and never once reached for even a yellow card!

However, Barry went further ahead after 25 minutes with a converted try from Evans.

Haskell and George were prominent players at this time, but there was a worrying ankle injury to Brown, which led to his substitution.

A third try was scored by O'Sullivan as a reward for good back play, while the fourth and bonus point try was

secured via a try for Ryan after support work from the pack.

Following a yellow card for the home side, their defence was opened up for Cummings to do the honours. The half-time score stood at 31-5 to Barry.

With St Albans starting short of a man, the second half became something of a procession. Given the deluge of tries during this period, it may be churlish to record that the visitors were guilty of inaccurate kicking out of hand and of lacking composure at times.

The try tally rose to 11 with well-engineered scores from Evans, Hadfield, Cummings (2) and Provis (2).

The Barry show is definitely back on the road.

The next match is a home game against Cilfynydd on Saturday afternoon.

CO

## Long season takes toll on Barry Town

**THE Dragons finished their 2009-10 home programme with a disappointing reverse at the hands of Cambrian & Clydach.**

There can be no complaints as The Dragons were beaten by the better team on the day.

Cambrian started much the livelier and they were soon putting The Dragons' defence under pressure and keeper Dan Bradley was called on to make several saves, whereas The Dragons with Ian Jones as a lone striker found it difficult to create a chance.

It was no surprise when Cambrian took the lead on 36 minutes when a lovely through ball to Mike Jones saw him coolly put them in front. They also hit the upright and deservedly went in at half time in the lead.

The half-time team talk usually brings a better second half for Barry Town but it seemed that the long season, littered with so many injuries, was taking its toll on the players, many of whom were playing with injuries themselves.

Cambrian went 2-0 up within five minutes of

**BARRY TOWN 1  
CAMBRIAN & CLYDACH 3**

the restart when poor defending from a free kick gave full-back Lee Michaels an easy header from three yards out.

The Dragons pushed forward searching for a goal to get them back in the game but once again Cambrian showed their mettle when they scored a brilliant third goal.

From a Dragons' free kick, they picked up the ball and fed it to Jason Bertorelli who ran 20 yards unmarked and smashed the ball home off the underside of the crossbar on 76 minutes to effectively seal the game.

To give the team credit, they never gave up and with Ian Jones, Sam Small and Christian Mills now up front, they looked for a consolation goal. It came with five minutes left when Michael Parkins picked up the ball on the halfway line and from 30 yards out, shot into the far corner for what was the best goal of the game. It would be of little consolation though as The Dragons were beaten on the day.

Although a disappointing result, the Barry

Team: Dan Bradley; Atif Bashir, Lewis Cosslett, Dan Clare, Lewis James; Rob Blatchford (sub. Christian Mills), Michael Parkins, Sam Hartrey, Nickie Jones (sub. James Simpson), Scott Jones (sub Sam Small); Ian Jones. Subs not used, Damon Searle, Richard Johnson.

Next match: Saturday, April 17 - Cardiff Corinthians - Away - kick-off 2.30pm; Wednesday, April 21 - Caldicot Town - Away - kick-off 7.30pm.

DAVID COLE

## Seconds hold nerve with minutes to go

**WITH Barry down to the bare bones after last weekend's bruising encounter at Tondur, it required something special for the home side to face up to promotion chasing Llanishen, who they lost to earlier in the season.**

The game started off in frantic fashion. With conditions ideal for fast, flowing, back-dominated rugby, no quarters were given. Llanishen drew first blood, when a Barry infringement inside their own half was duly punished by three points.

The away side continued to dominate, kicking cleverly for territory and denying Barry the ball. A fine break from midfield saw them run through for their first try of the game. The conversion was missed.

Injuries soon plagued Barry again as debutant Steve King had to come off, replaced by Craig Manley, as the home side tried to redouble their efforts to come back from an eight point deficit.

Some superb work from Nick Rolfe in the tight ensured that the talented Barry backs had some of the ball, with Hywel Graham dictating play expertly.

After Adam Lee had chosen to kick when a pass out wide to Ben Taylor might have been the better option, Barry

**BARRY 2nd XV 21  
LLANISHEN 2nd XV 18**

did get on the scoresheet as top try-scorer Lee Bounds sprinted past the Llanishen defence from deep to ground between the posts. The conversion was a formality for the reliable boot of Lee.

Barry sensed a comeback, and now they were beginning to dominate in the forward department. Lee Jones had a fine game, denying the Llanishen backs time with his energetic tackling, and the front row of Houldey, Hosking and Elsworth held their own in the scrum.

When Llanishen were penalised for holding on, Lee duly slotted over a penalty to give them a 10-8 lead at half-time.

Debutant Dan Jordan replaced second row Matthew Tobin early in the second half, as Barry went for the jugular. David Williams, who had been outstanding in carrying the ball for the whole game, was justly rewarded with a fine try, as he left the away defenders flailing. The conversion out wide was missed.

Llanishen, however, were not in their league position by giving up when behind. They upped the ante and attempted to find gaps in the Barry defence. A superb kick-and-chase through the middle saw them rewarded with a touch down underneath the posts. A simple conversion levelled the

scores.

Rolfe continued to showcase his skills in tackling, ball carrying and rucking, leading the rest of the Barry pack in an assault to the Llanishen line.

Lee was given the opportunity once more with a penalty attempt, and he duly converted to prise Barry ahead once more.

After Llanishen replied with a well-taken penalty of their own, Barry threw on their last substitute as Ken Chow came on for Alex Evans.

The ball was kept in the middle, however, as the home side attempted to use their advantage in the tight.

With just minutes to go, Lee was given another penalty opportunity, and he stroked it over with authority to hand Barry the lead once more.

The away side had one last chance to steal the win when they kicked the ball through from a well-worked move off the scrum, but Taylor was able to smother it and kick the ball dead to seal a fine Barry win.

Team: Lee; Evans, D. Williams, Bounds, Taylor; J. Williams, Graham; Houldey, Hosking, Elsworth; Tobin, King; Cae (c), Jones, Rolfe. Subs used: Manley, Jordan, Chow. Man-of-the-match: Rolfe.

## Dinas Powys suffer from defensive lapses

**Welsh League Division One 2  
BETTWS 0  
DINAS POWYS 0**

**THIS was a poor game on a difficult pitch with neither side providing much in the way of entertainment in the warm sunshine.**

It was the home side who applied the early pressure with Richard Ready clearing the crossbar with his shot.

Early on, both keepers were guilty of clearing the ball too far on what was a small pitch with the ball ending in the arms of their opposite number, but the Dinas keeper was in the right place to save comfortably from Keiran Howells when he turned well in the area and got in his shot.

Dinas came back into the game with Jo Hinds heading down for Ricki Morgan to shoot but his effort was deflected clear.

Mark Dunford then shot wide but he couldn't reach a Paul Carro through ball with the ball running to Mark Elliot in the Bettws goal.

The best chance of the half came from a corner for Tony Wallis, but his powerful header was saved when it

looked as though he must score. Five minutes before half-time, fortune shined on Bettws when deep in the Dinas area, a defensive clearance rebounded off another player and ended in the back of the net for the opener.

Neither side had really deserved a goal in the first half, but it was the home side who came out and had Dinas on the back foot for most of the second half.

When the visitors did get forward they didn't create any goal-scoring opportunities, the nearest was a penalty appeal for handball turned down by the referee.

If the first Bettws goal was fortunate, the second certainly was well constructed. Full-back Nicky Cole did well on the left to get the better of his marker and pulled the ball back for Gareth Morgan to place his shot just inside the left upright from the edge of the area. It sealed Dinas's fate, the referee blowing for full-time a couple of minutes later.

MORLEY WILLIAMS

## Sisters are aiming for international honours

**TWO sisters from Penarth are among 40 elite athletes whose sporting ambitions are being supported during 2010 by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Sports Academy Scheme.**

Welsh international hockey player Beth Fisher, and her lacrosse-playing sister Hannah, are both receiving free use of the council's leisure facilities to help with their training needs. Gym workouts, swimming and fitness classes at Penarth Leisure Centre are all contributing to both sisters' fitness regimes.

The Vale's Sports Academy Scheme supported cycling star Nicole Cooke earlier in her career, and the Fisher sisters are two more excellent role models for girls looking to get into sport.

Both have made the progression from first playing sport at school to representing Wales at senior level, and are keen to encourage others to enjoy the benefits that sport and a healthy lifestyle bring.



**Sisters Beth and Hannah Fisher, from Penarth, represent Wales at hockey and lacrosse.**

Beth, who also sailed for Wales before pursuing hockey seriously at 15, said: "Joining a hockey club was one of the best things I have ever done. Naturally my hockey improved, but more importantly I made friends for life."

"My proudest moment was when I was first selected for the Wales under-16s team in 1999. I had practised in my school hall practically every lunch time to get better and the hard work paid off!"

Hannah was also a talented hockey player in school, but developed a passion for lacrosse, and said: "Lacrosse is a brilliant sport to play; it's fast, fun, addictive and unique."

"It's a great team sport so it will also rapidly improve your social life!" Beth's target for this year is to be called up to the Wales hockey squad for the Commonwealth Games in October, while Hannah is focused on selection for the lacrosse home internationals.

Coun Anthony Ernest, the Vale Council's Leisure and Tourism, said: "We are delighted that the Sports Academy Scheme can help talented individuals such as Beth and Hannah to reach their potential on a national and international stage within recognised sports."

To find out about the wide range of sports and play opportunities in the Vale, visit [www.vale-of-glamorgan.gov.uk/sportsandplay](http://www.vale-of-glamorgan.gov.uk/sportsandplay)